



Thatcher sees possibility of meeting Botha

Mrs Thatcher, before she had her regular audience with the Queen last night, left open the possibility of personal talks with President Botha...

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister, refusing all attempts to draw her into comment about her relations with the Queen, opened up the possibility yesterday of personal talks with President Botha about the South Africa crisis.

During a tense question-time session in the Commons, just over three hours before her regular audience with the Queen at Buckingham Palace, Mrs Margaret Thatcher stonewalled as several MPs questioned her on the reported rift with the Queen.

She also disclosed that the Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, may make more than the scheduled two trips to Pretoria as part of his European Community peace mission.

Whitehall sources emphasized later that, although no personal talks were planned between Mrs Thatcher and Mr Botha, they could not be ruled out. They were not encouraging the idea that Mrs Thatcher would go to Pretoria.

The Prime Minister was jeered by Labour MPs and cheered by Tories when, in her customary answer setting out her engagements for the day, she said that she hoped to have an audience of the Queen.

Sir Steel, the Liberal leader, was the first MP to try

to raise Mrs Thatcher's relations with the Queen, but for him and others the Prime Minister proffered the standard reply that she intended to follow precedent and not answer questions directly or indirectly about the monarch.

As usual, there was no official word last night about what was said between Mrs Thatcher and the Queen at their meeting, although ministers were speculating that both

by the Government to the imposition of sanctions. When Mrs Thatcher told him he was making an absurd demand Mr Kinnoch accused her of "spoiling the games, rupturing the Commonwealth and sabotaging the mission of the Foreign Secretary".

Meanwhile, The Sunday Times yesterday threatened further disclosures to support the authenticity of its report last Sunday. A denial of the report was issued on Saturday night by the Queen's press secretary, Mr Michael Shea.

Yesterday, Mr Andrew Neil, editor of The Sunday Times, said: "I want to leave nobody in any doubt that our report was published only after the most exhaustive checking with our sources at the highest level inside Buckingham Palace".

He said the accusation that the report was "entirely without foundation" was one that responsible officials in the Palace knew to be untrue.

He added: "If they do not withdraw it they will feel it necessary to protect its reputation by making further disclosures about the background to our report to substantiate its authoritative nature".

Mr Neil added that that would take the form of a breakdown of how the paper's journalists received briefings by their sources. The paper, he added, had no intention of naming the "mole" because it always refused to disclose its sources.

But she refused to give Mr Neil Kinnoch the assurance he demanded, after last Friday's meeting of the front-line states in Harare, of a commitment

discriminatory legislation. Sir Geoffrey will meet President Botha and Mr "Pik" Botha, the Foreign Minister today.

The Minister of Law and Order, Mr Louis L. Grange, yesterday angrily rejected a reported claim that he had told the Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group that violence in South Africa could be controlled if "enough blacks" were shot.

Mr Malcolm Fraser, the former Australian Prime Minister, was reported to have made the claim in Washington. If he had been correctly reported Mr Fraser had told "a blatant lie", Mr L. Grange declared. "No responsible government official would make a statement like the one attributed to me."

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addresses his party congress in the middle of August. Senior officials indicated that close contacts would be maintained in the coming critical weeks with European allies.

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Senator Richard Lugar, chairman of the Senate foreign relations committee, urged Mr Reagan in an Oval Office meeting on Monday night never to use the term again.

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He appealed to Congress and Western Europe to resist what he called "this emotional clamour for punitive sanctions".

"If Congress imposes sanctions it would destroy America's flexibility, discard our diplomatic leverage, and deepen the crisis. To make a difference, Americans must stay and work, not cut and run."

To judge from Mr Reagan's remarks and those of senior officials afterwards, the thrust of immediate Administration policy will be to warn South Africa that its policies are creating "self-imposed economic sanctions" because of worldwide business decisions to disinvest.



Eve-of-the-wedding wave from Miss Ferguson, watched by a Clarence House footman.

Flights of fancy at the Palace

By Alan Hamilton

Miss Sarah Ferguson plans to learn to fly, so that when her husband comes home from a hard day in the helicopter, she knows what he is talking about.

Miss Ferguson disclosed her ambition in an unusually frank, intimate and frequently comical interview shown on BBC 1 and ITV last night, on the eve of today's wedding.

Prince Andrew admitted that, if his conversation drifted towards flying in the company of his family, his younger brother Prince Edward did "various things with knives and forks".

Sitting in the Prince's quarters at Buckingham Palace, the couple laughed, bounced jokes off each other, and generally gave the impression of enjoying themselves hugely.

Miss Ferguson, asked by Prince Andrew whether he should remain in the Navy, replied: "Yes I do. I think you do the job very well. And I think I can cope very well with being a Navy wife." To that end, she had discovered a good fish and chip shop in Portland, Dorset, where the Prince will be posted next.

Asked how they were feeling as their wedding approached, Miss Ferguson said simply: "Great." Prince Andrew confessed to being "Exhausted, but beginning to be on a real high." The bride-to-be stated firmly that, unlike the Princesses of Wales, she was word perfect on her marriage vows.

On keeping the word "obey" in the marriage vows, the Prince said it had been Sarah's choice. "In a dilemma there will always have to be someone who makes the final decision. I shall leave that decision to my husband."

But she added, with a hint of steel behind a smile, that she was not the sort of person to obey meekly, and while the Prince would not promise to obey, he would certainly promise to worship.

She was, she said, opinionated and liked to know what

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Royal Wedding INSIDE

The Times guide to the wedding of Andrew and Sarah



A modern couple: profiles of Andrew and Sarah

All the Queen's horses: guide to the ceremonial procession

The armchair guest: following the processional route on television

Inside the Abbey: who sits where and full order of service

PLUS: The Honey Bee and the Thistle, a celebratory poem by Ted Hughes, Poet Laureate; Norman St John-Stevan on Royal liberation; Philip Howard on Royal Times past

TOMORROW On the day

The Times' team of writers and photographers provide the most vivid reports of a right Royal day

Annette Cowley's plea fails

By John Goodbody

Annette Cowley, the South African-born swimmer, yesterday lost her case in the High Court to be reinstated in the English team for the 13th Commonwealth Games, which begin in Edinburgh tomorrow.

Sir Nicholas Browne-Wilkinson, the Vice-Chancellor, ruled that the decision of the Commonwealth Games Federation not to allow Miss Cowley to swim was "correct in law".

He ruled: "It seems she came to this country to take part in the swimming events - and, if possible, the Commonwealth Games - (and) not as an inhabitant. She is a visitor with a specific purpose, with a fixed intention of leaving again and no idea when she will return".

Miss Cowley, aged 19, is studying in the US and only arrived in Britain in May.

The judge said the federation had made a "fair assessment" of her situation when it said she might well intend to make England her home in the future but not yet.

The thrust of his message was that America should not forcefully seek to impose its will on Pretoria, and that the West must maintain contact and investment to maintain potential leverage for change.

"We fully support the current efforts of the British Government to revive hopes for negotiations," he said. Talks between Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, and South African leaders this week would be of particular significance.

The speech seems to have been designed to buy time to see the outcome of Sir Geoffrey's talks and of the Commonwealth meeting early next month.

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Reagan refuses to back sanctions against Pretoria

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

President Reagan adamantly rejected the international clamour for punitive sanctions against South Africa yesterday, declaring that Mrs Margaret Thatcher was right to denounce them as immoral and utterly repugnant.

But he warned that apartheid must be dismantled because time was running out for the moderates of all races.

His speech from the East Room of the White House amounted to a blunt reiteration of policy and an outright refusal to heed warnings by US Senate leaders that he faces an embarrassing and imminent demand from Capitol Hill for across-the-board American disinvestment unless he changed direction.

In places he defended the South African Government, saying that it had a right and responsibility to maintain order in the face of terrorists, although he attacked its tactics and the state of emergency.

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Last-minute blow to Howe mission

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Sir Geoffrey Howe's mission to South Africa was dealt a further blow yesterday when the United Democratic Front, the most important of the radical anti-apartheid organizations still operating legally, announced that none of its representatives would meet the Foreign Secretary.

In a memorandum delivered to the embassies of Britain and other EEC countries, the UDF accused European governments of having "chosen to placate the nationalist Government" at a time "when the black majority and white democrats are under the severest attack ever launched by this fascist regime in the history of our country".

Calling for immediate punitive action against Pretoria, it said it would not meet Sir Geoffrey "or any other emissary of European governments" until the South African Government had:

released all political prisoners and detainees;

lifted the ban on the ANC and other organizations;

disbanded the security forces;

scrapped all security and discriminatory legislation;

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Morocco talks stay secret

Rabat (AP) - Secret talks between King Hassan of Morocco and Mr Shimon Peres, the Israeli Prime Minister, on the Middle East turmoil continued yesterday under an almost total news blackout in Morocco.

For the second day the Moroccan media maintained their silence on the unexpected visit by Mr Peres, the first by an Israeli Prime Minister to an Arab country other than Egypt.

There was an outcry, however, from militant Arabs. The venue for the talks, the King's secluded summer palace at Ifrane, 125 miles east of Rabat, was ringed by troops and police, and access was barred to all outsiders.

Israeli journalists who arrived with Mr Peres on Monday were in a luxury hotel inside the security ring and apparently were not allowed to communicate with the outside world.

But Moroccan officials for the first time admitted privately that the talks were in progress.

Peres play, Syrian anger, man in the news, page 7

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Gas prices may be on way down

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

British Gas, due to be sold in the world's biggest privatization project, yesterday announced profits of £688 million and may cut its prices early next year.

The company gained 270,000 new customers, paid £252 million in gas levy, £262 million in tax, and invested £571 million in capital projects. Sales of cookers and other appliances rose by 10 per cent and made a profit of £11.9 million, up nearly £10 million.

Sir Denis Rooke, the chairman, said the corporation had met all targets set by the Government, if oil prices continued to be depressed and the pound remained strong, he believed the corporation had "a sporting chance" of keeping gas prices at present levels or reducing them. Gas prices last rose, by an average of 1.7 per cent, in May.

Turnover rose from £6,914 million to £7,687 million, and the number of employees fell by more than 3,300 to 89,747

Details, page 21

Agents are sent back to French

Paris (AP) - The two French secret agents jailed for their role in the Greenpeace ship Rainbow Warrior's sinking left New Zealand yesterday for French Polynesia, the Foreign Ministry said.

Commandant Alain Maffart and Captain Dominique Prieur, who were given 10-year sentences, will spend three years on a French Pacific island.

The ministry said other parts of the French-New Zealand agreement were put into effect at a meeting in Paris.

Legal middle, page 14

Pound drops to \$1.49

Sterling fell 1.1 cents to \$1.49 yesterday and its index fell from 73.0 to 72.8, but it steadied to DM3.18. The FT 30-share index lost 1.6 points to 1274.7 (David Smith writes).

US second-quarter growth, measured by gross national product, was an annual 1.1 per cent, down from 3.8 per cent in the first quarter.

Stock market, page 23

Advertisement for Famous Grouse Scotch Whisky featuring a bottle and a pheasant.

Maxwell rhetoric shows its flaws... Malaria seen in Edinburgh...

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Faster trains planned as BR reports £1.2m profit

A big increase in the speed of rail travel between many of the main towns and cities is planned for the 1990s, the chairman of British Rail, Sir Bob Reid, disclosed yesterday.

He was introducing a glowing report for last year which included a £1.2 million profit instead of the £420 million loss reported for the previous year after the miners' strike. The last time British Rail made a profit was in 1983 when it was £7.8 million.

On speed, he said that top speeds on Inter-City trains are planned to rise from 125mph to 140mph and up to 30 minutes will be knocked off the present fastest times between places such as London and Edinburgh. That journey now takes four and a half hours for 400 miles.

The main beneficiary will be the East Coast main line which is being electrified. New high-speed electric trains are due to enter service in three years' time.

Improvements are also planned on the London to Manchester, Liverpool and Glasgow routes by smoothing curves in the track and introducing faster trains. Services to Wales and the West Country and the south and east coasts should also benefit.

Passenger traffic, at 18,800 million passenger miles, was the highest for seven years and punctuality and reliability were improving.

"Enormous management

effort" was going into improved timekeeping, Sir Robert said. Cancellations were expected to be reduced from 1.2 per cent of timetabled trains last year to a target 1 per cent this year.

About 90 per cent of London commuter trains and 82 per cent of Inter-City trains should reach their destinations within five minutes of the right time this year.

Other features of the report were:

- **Investment:** A £2,000 million programme now underway is the biggest for 25 years and is "beginning to breathe new and vigorous life into the nation's railways", Sir Robert said.
- **Taxpayers' support:** At £919 million now, it is 131 million lower in real terms than three years ago.
- **Manpower:** Down by nearly 4,500 last year and, after the unions' recent rejection of industrial action, further reductions of 5,000 jobs in engineering and maintenance alone would be carried out in the most humane possible way. But British Rail would still need 7,000 recruits a year.
- **Inter-City and London commuter lines:** Both report also improved carryings and results, but rail freight lost £65 million, partly as a result of the miners' strike and the dispute over driver-only freight trains, which was now settled.

Parents of shot boy claim for distress

By Craig Seton
West Midlands Police are considering a compensation claim for "shock and distress" from the parents of John Shorthouse, aged five, who was shot dead by a police marksman last August.

Mrs Jacqueline Shorthouse and her husband, John, who is in prison, have already received £3,500, the maximum allowed for the death under the Fatal Accidents Act, 1976.

They are now claiming damages for nervous shock and distress to themselves and their two other sons, under common law.

Mr Trevor Rogers, of the West Midlands Police Authority, confirmed yesterday that a solicitor acting for the parents had asked the authority to put forward a formal offer to settle the claim.

It is understood that the authority will seek the advice of specialist counsel before it decides whether to make an offer to the family.

Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, Conservative MP for Selly Oak, Birmingham, said recently that the parents should receive about £10,000.

John Shorthouse was shot dead by Police Constable Brian Chester during an armed police raid on his parents' Birmingham maisonette.

PC Chester was acquitted of manslaughter by a jury at Stafford Crown Court earlier this month and has returned to duty.

The dead boy's father is serving a five-year prison term for his part in a robbery at a Welsh restaurant two days before the fatal shooting.

Ferries frustrated by tunnel Bill talks

By Sheila Gunn
Political Staff

A confrontation with Channel ferry operators is looming as the Government attempts to push through the Channel Tunnel Bill.

In the latest move to stop the project becoming bogged down in Parliament, the Select Committee hearing objections yesterday ruled ferry companies could not argue against the £3 billion rail link.

Government officials and project backers fear the link, supported by Mrs Margaret Thatcher and the French government, could flounder if all objectors were allowed to put their case. It faces a six-month delay because of a miscalculation by government advisers on the strength of objections.

Eurotunnel, the English-French consortium behind the project, said the delay would not endanger the tunnel but would inevitably increase costs and raise doubts about its financial backing.

The Bill could be scrapped if it has not gone through all its stages before the next election.

Mr Gerard Ryan, counsel for the ferry companies, appealed for £100 million compensation for damage caused by the link.

Mr Alex Fletcher, committee chairman and Conservative MP for Edinburgh Central, said: "We do not wish to hear evidence on the viability of the construction, operation and maintenance of the fixed link." He said the committee was required to listen to petitioners concerned that their interests should be protected or compensated. But it was not required to hear evidence on the principle of the Bill, which has received a second reading in the Commons.

A Sealink spokesman said: "This gag suggests that the Eurotunnel finances do not add up, as we have frequently suggested, and that the whole basis of its financing is very suspect." He refused to say whether Sealink was considering legal action to gain compensation.

He said: "It does seem extraordinary that the select committee will not examine the full independent economic case which compares the finances of the tunnel and the ferries. This has to be presented to ensure that the ferries are given a fair chance to compete against the tunnel."

Mr Jonathan Aitken, Conservative MP for Thanet South and an opponent of the tunnel scheme, described the ruling as "an outrageous suppression of free speech".

Ferry companies and other objectors barred from the hearing will have a chance to put their case before the House of Lords select committee later this year.

Sealink estimates it will be forced to lay-off 4,000 of its 4,500 staff, at a cost of £30 million-£50 million.



The Prime Minister greeting Mrs Nancy Reagan outside 10 Downing Street yesterday. The American first lady is in London for tomorrow's royal wedding. (Photograph: Leslie Lee)

State may back new teacher pay deal

By Mark Dowd

The Government may be prepared to underwrite increases in teachers' salaries in exchange for "an uninterrupted flow of education of the highest standard", Mr Kenneth Baker, the Secretary of State for Education, hinted yesterday.

He was giving his first evidence to the Commons select committee on education since replacing Sir Keith Joseph.

At Monday's meeting of the Burnham management committee, local authority leaders made clear that they were prepared to offer a pay and conditions package "substantially above" the £1.25 billion deal over four years offered last autumn.

Representatives of the employers and the teaching unions will meet in Coventry this weekend for a two-day negotiating session and Mr Baker said the Government accepted the responsibility of funding part of any agreement.

Nevertheless, it was concerned about "the overall money that is available, which has to be balanced against other calls on the nation's resources".

Mr Baker would want to be satisfied that a much more rigid codification of teachers' contractual duties and responsibilities could be agreed before talking about more money.

The cost of implementing the local authorities' peace package could be as high as £2.5 billion.

Responding to suggestions that some schools were operating in a "semi-vacuum situation" through the introduction of the GCSE exam, Mr Baker said he was fully satisfied that enough progress was being made in schools.

"More preparations have been done for this exam than for any other in our history," he said.

He made particular reference to one school he visited recently which traditionally started teaching for the academic year in July. There, he said, instruction for the GCSE exams in physics had begun.

The education department would soon begin a promotional campaign directed at employers and trades unions to explain more thoroughly the workings of the examination.

Top jobs hope for Catholics

By Richard Ford

The number of Roman Catholics working in the Northern Ireland Civil Service has increased by 6 percentage points from 1980 to 1985, but Protestants still dominate in the most senior posts.

The Government believes, however, that this is a result of employment practices of more than 20 years ago and that in the future there will be a better balance between Roman Catholics and Protestants in the higher ranks of the service.

Figures released in a government report yesterday show the religious divide in the Civil Service on January 1, last year, at 63.6 per cent Protestant and 36.4 per cent Roman Catholic compared with 69.3 per cent Protestant and 30.7 per cent Roman Catholic in 1980.

Protestants form 62 per cent of the general population in the province and Roman Catholics 38 per cent.

Mr Rhodes Boyson, Minister of State at the Northern Ireland Office, said that the Civil Service, which employs 22,500 people, "was a quite remarkable flagship for the province and had made every attempt to recruit on merit".

The report shows that increases in the number of Roman Catholics employed in the service happened in all occupational groups examined, but that the highest percentage of Roman Catholics employed were at clerical and clerical assistant level and the highest percentage level of Protestants occurred at the level of deputy principal and senior principal and above.

Cowley appeal on Games ban fails

The South African born swimmer Annette Cowley failed yesterday in the High Court to overturn the ban on her appearing in the England team at the Commonwealth Games.

The Vice Chancellor, Sir Nicholas Browne-Wilkinson, refused to grant the British freestyle champion a declaration that the decision of the Commonwealth Games Federation was "wrong in law".

The judge said far from being "manifestly incorrect" the decision was "manifestly correct".

Miss Cowley, aged 19, said last night: "I would have loved to have swum for England. In the meantime I will continue in the hope that one day I will be able to swim for my country."

Miss Cowley seemed in good humour when she faced a press conference with England team officials after the decision. "If I didn't smile it would be tears. This is where my heart is. This is where I am going to come back to".

Miss Cowley is studying at an university in Texas but intends to move to England after her studies and complete the 12-month residence qualification required by international rules.

Mr David Reeves, Secretary of the Amateur Swimming Association, said it intended to challenge the rules laid down by FINA, the International governing body, which had made Miss Cowley ineligible.

The High Court ruling had said that the function of the court was to correct errors of law and decide if the federa-



Annette Cowley at the games village yesterday.

tion had acted beyond its powers. The court had no power or right to intervene unless the decision was so manifestly absurd that no body of reasonable men could have reached the decision.

But he believed the federation had made a "fair assessment" of the situation, namely that while Miss Cowley intended to make Britain her permanent home in the future, she had not done so yet.

Drugs ban, page 40

Wapping dispute

Union 'inaction' on violence

By Tim Jones

A High Court judge said yesterday he found it significant that in spite of print union condemnations of violence there was not a "scrap of evidence" of any action being taken against guilty members.

Mr Justice Stuart-Smith made his remark on the ninth day of News International's attempt to curb what it says are unlawful picketing, marches and demonstrations outside its new plant at Wapping, east London, and other premises owned by the company or its subsidiaries.

But Mr Eldred Tabachnik, QC, appearing for Mr Michael Britton, a Sogat '82 official against whom the company is seeking an injunction, said it was one thing to condemn violence and another to identify the wrong-doers.

Mr Britton had been described as a chief steward and that was not denied nor in dispute. Mr Tabachnik said his client had made it clear he deplored such actions as following people from their place of work or taking their photographs.

"He has never seen any violent behaviour by an official picket and never encouraged, organized or condoned such actions. He would do his best to prevent it from occurring."

Mr Justice Stuart-Smith is

Court action to end library ban of papers

Three London boroughs which have banned *The Times* and other News International titles from their libraries in support of 5,500 dismissed print workers will have to defend their actions in the High Court.

Mr Justice Macpherson of Cluny yesterday gave leave to Times Newspapers Limited, News Group Newspapers and News International to seek orders ending the blocking of their titles after hearing the boroughs were embarking on a strategy of "masterly delay".

Mr Anthony Lester, QC, for News International, said the Boroughs of Ealing, Hammersmith and Fulham, and Camden had devised their tactics

Man accused of riot deaths 'a hero at 17'

A man accused of the manslaughter of two brothers in a fire during the Handsworth riots last September had rescued a girl aged five from her burning home when he was aged 17, Birmingham Crown Court was told yesterday.

Detective Constable Robert Bright said that Mark Barrett, now aged 22, a father of three, of Wiggan Tower, Newton, Birmingham, had admitted that he started the fire at the Lozells Road sub-post office.

But he had said that he had no idea that Mr Amarali Moledina, aged 44, and his brother, Kassamali, aged 38, were still inside.

The brothers died of carbon monoxide poisoning and asphyxia. Home office pathologist Mr Peter Acland told the court.

Barrett and Samuel Murrain, aged 18, of Fentham Road, Aston, Birmingham, deny arson and manslaughter charges.

The trial continues.

Clamp on visitor's passports

By Richard Evans
Political Correspondent

Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, last night announced a tightening up of procedures for obtaining British Visitor's Passports, after growing abuse by criminals and foreigners.

Applicants have to produce only one document from a selected list as evidence of identity, but the Home Office has heard of cases where passports have been obtained

Man accused of riot deaths 'a hero at 17'

by people giving the wrong name. Others are not qualified for a passport because they do not have British citizenship.

Mr Hurd said last night: "There have been instances in which British Visitor's Passports have been obtained by people not entitled by identity, or nationality, to use them."

The visitor's passport, which is cheaper than the standard passport, lasts for only one year.

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Court effort needs cover

The cost of implementing the local authorities' peace package could be as high as £2.5 billion.

Skeleton find

Workmen building an extension to Ivy House, at Shalbourne, Wiltshire, the home of Sir Dermot Desmond, Chief Justice of Gibraltar, yesterday unearthed two skeletons, believed to be from the seventeenth century.

Cockle move

Mr Justice Rose reserved judgement in the High Court yesterday as to whether the solicitors Herbert Smith & Co had been negligent in failing to protect the secret formula essential to the bottling of cockles by Leslie Parsons, from Burry Port, South Wales.

Graves guard

A 24-hour guard is being mounted on Holy Trinity churchyard, Bordesley, Birmingham, to deter grave robbers while up to 3,000 bodies are exhumed and moved for reburial in individual, coffin-sized casks, making way for a road-widening scheme.

Yacht found

The 60ft Italian racing yacht Berluchi, missing since taking part in the recent Carlsberg TransAtlantic race, was found yesterday, capsized and with her keel gone, 600 miles off Land's End. There was no trace of her two-man crew.

IS YOURS A MAXWELL HOUSE?

Maxwell House

Teachers' plea to keep school sports alive

By John Goodbody, Sports News Correspondent

Teachers' unions and educational bodies struggling to arrest the decline of rugby, cricket and football in state schools, agreed yesterday to ask the Government for a new flexible contract to pay staff for supervising out-of-school activities.

The eight organizations, which met the Central Council of Physical Recreation in London, proposed that PE staff should work less during regular school hours and be available for extra-curricular coaching.

They also decided that each area should have a body to extend the use of sports centres for school-children and educational premises for the public.

Although all agreed that there should be a strengthening of links with sports clubs near schools, Mr Peter Lawson, secretary of the council, said that by restricting team games to clubs they would become increasingly middle-class.

To handle what Mr Lawson terms a "trump" of talented children, who may never be recognized, teachers agreed there should be a new system to identify outstanding competitors.

The organizations represented were: the National Union of Teachers, Professional Association of Teachers, National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers, Assistant Masters' and Mistresses' Association, the National Confederation of Parent Teacher Associations, the Secondary Heads Association, National Association of Head Teachers and the National Council for Schools' Sports.

Warning on cling film

Warning on cling film is issued by the Health Department.

Government safety and family

Warning on cling film

Realizing a

Post Office

Government neglecting safety of diplomats and families, say MPs

By Sheila Gunn, Political Staff

The Government was accused yesterday of neglecting the safety of diplomats and their families serving abroad.

The all-party Foreign Affairs Committee, which made the accusation, said that tight controls on Foreign Office budgets and frequent attacks by terrorists and other criminals were to blame for the increased dangers facing embassies.

Ministers are expected to be reasonably sympathetic to the committee's request for more money to protect diplomats and their families and other staff. But it is thought likely to try to find the money by reducing overseas staff or by closing a few of the smaller missions.

The committee, chaired by Sir Anthony Kershaw, Conservative MP for Stroud, was told of 41 attacks on British missions, including 25 bombings and 4 deaths, since 1976.

Since that time, evidence has been taken that there has been a murder this month of Mr Geoffrey Hutchinson, honorary British consul in Barranquilla, Colombia.

In unusually strong language for a select committee, the MPs made plain to ministers that more must be done to safeguard diplomats and their families.

"It cannot be right that all the funds required should be found from within existing budgets," they said.

"We regard it as a priority that sufficient resources be made available without the Foreign Office having to cut back on its normal activities to find the money; and we look to the Government to take appropriate action."

The committee was told of the much stricter security imposed on diplomatic posts after a review by the Foreign Office of the growing terrorist threat. That became more urgent when fears grew of retaliation against Britain after the United States raids on Libya.

But the MPs reported: "The dangers do not, of course, face diplomatic service officers alone, but also their families and locally engaged staff."

"In some ways, the families are more vulnerable since, outside embassy or high commission areas, they do not always get protection. The psychological strain on families can be considerable."

They praised the Foreign Office for paying compensation immediately after the murder of a diplomat and for its decisions on the selection of overseas staff and the length of tours.

But they added: "We are, nevertheless, concerned that these arrangements are not yet satisfactory and recommend that they be reviewed."

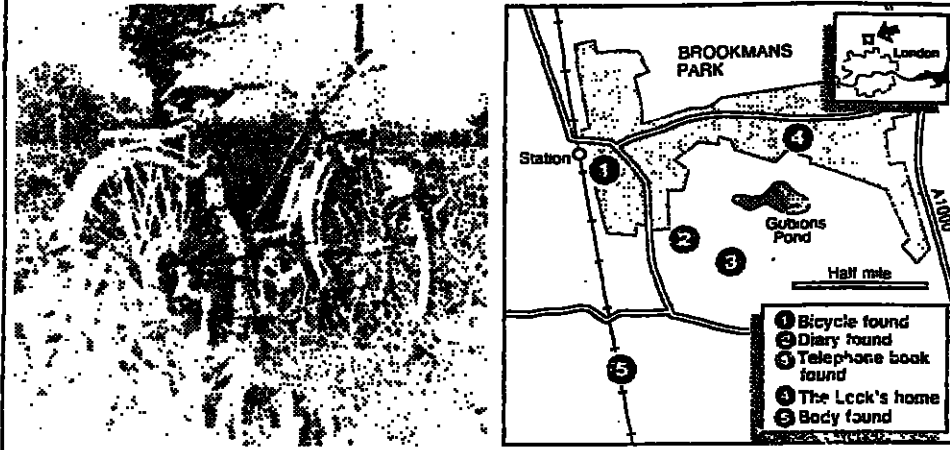
This year's overseas security budget totals £22.74 million, but the committee was dismayed to find that extra money to protect diplomats and their families had to be financed by cuts elsewhere.

"The committee is of the view that the extra expenditure envisaged on physical security is of the highest importance, both from the point of view of the personal needs of diplomatic staff and their families and from the point of view of enabling the Foreign Office to carry on doing its job to full effect."

The MPs were also worried about the safety of British Council staff. It was unacceptable, they said, for the council to have to choose between the safety of its staff and their families and maintaining services.

The committee is investigating the effectiveness of overseas aid. In this report it called for more money to restore aid to the level of the 1970s.

Foreign Affairs Committee Fourth Report: FCO and ODA supply estimates 1986-87 (Stationery Office: £9.10).



Mr and Mrs Lock on their wedding day (top), her bicycle found chained and locked near Brookmans Park railway station (above left), and a map showing the murder scene.

Rail link in Lock murder

By Nicholas Beeston

Detectives investigating the murder of Mrs Anne Lock, whose body was found beside a railway line on Monday, said yesterday that they were seeking a man wanted for two other murders and three rapes in the London region.

Det. Chief Supt Vincent McFadden, of the Surrey police, who is co-ordinating the investigation, said that there was a "tangible link" in the methods used in the murders.

He said that 100 officers were involved in the hunt for the killer, who was described as being aged in his twenties, with a pale complexion, slim to medium build and brown, collar-length hair, and a south-east England accent.

"We are dealing with a very dangerous killer who obviously has no compunctions about killing, whatever," Mr McFadden said.

Mrs Lock's murder was linked to the murder and rape of Miss Maartje Tamboezer, aged 15, at Guildford, Surrey, last April, and Miss Alison Day, aged 19, at Hackney Wick, east London, whose body was found just after Christmas.

In all three cases, the murderer bound his victims and killed them on a footpath near a railway station. He was also armed with a knife.

Det. Supt Kenneth Worker, of the Metropolitan police, will head the investigation into Mrs Lock's murder from incident rooms at Hendon, Guildford and Romford police stations.

He said that Mrs Lock, of Brookmans Park, Hertfordshire, was probably abducted near Brookmans Park railway station and led to knife point for a mile down a deserted railway line footpath before she was killed.

The pathologist who conducted the post-mortem examination said that it was still not clear whether she had been sexually assaulted, although clues leading to the identity of the killer may emerge from articles found at the murder site.

The pathologist said that Mrs Lock, aged 29, a London Weekend Television production secretary, died of asphyxiation. Her mouth was still gagged when she was found by railway workers.

The police said there were indications that her hands had been bound.

Her husband of four weeks, Mr Laurence Lock, aged 26, a butcher, remained at his home yesterday and declined to answer questions. A friend said that he wanted to be left alone.

Mr McFadden said that the police already had strong leads to the killer's identity. Pathologists had discovered after the murder of Miss Tamboezer that he had a "minority blood group" and forensic scientists had obtained good fingerprints.

Other similarities, apart from the age of the victims and the time, cause and places of death, are that there were no apparent signs of forced entry and no obvious signs of burglary, although in some cases belongings were found to be missing from rooms.

Mr Thompson declined to elaborate on the reasons for not indefinitely linking, except that they related to things that had taken place within the victims' rooms.

He said: "If all the offences are by the same person he must be caught before he strikes again. This man is extremely dangerous. We ask elderly people to be extra vigilant and people living next door or close to old people to check they are alright and keep in touch with them."

Police have issued a description of a man, based on accounts from the 73-year-old man who survived and sightings of a person seen acting suspiciously near an old people's home where two of the victims lived.

He is described as white, aged 28 to 30, five feet eight inches tall, with dark short hair and a tanned or reddened face and wore dark clothing.

New links found in pensioner murders

By Mark Ellis

Police investigating seven murders and one attempted killing in which all the victims were pensioners attacked in their homes during the early hours of the morning disclosed more possible links between the crimes yesterday.

Five of the victims, both men and women, had been sexually assaulted and all, except one where the cause of death was not yet known, had been strangled in their beds, said Det. Chief Supt Kenneth Thompson, who is co-ordinating the murder inquiries.

A Scotland Yard press conference was called in the wake of speculation that the murders in London over the last four months were committed by one killer, dubbed the "Stockwell Strangler", who was preying on elderly people, mostly in south London.

Mr Thompson, of Scotland Yard's Serious Crime Branch, said: "At this stage there is a probable link. However, none of the investigating officers is saying that is definite. There are many factors which have a common link with each other and many things that don't fit in."

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Savage career is still in balance

By Thomson Prentice Science Correspondent

The future career of Mrs Wendy Savage, the consultant obstetrician suspended for 15 months over allegations of professional incompetence, is likely to be decided tomorrow.

The findings of the inquiry into the allegations will be formally published today, although the first part of the report was made public two weeks ago, with Mrs Savage claiming that she had been vindicated.

Her employers, the Tower Hamlets Health Authority in east London, will meet tomorrow to discuss the findings and vote on whether she should be re-instated at the London Hospital, Mile End.

However, Mrs Savage's solicitor, Mr Brian Raymond, yesterday expressed concern about the outcome. "The meeting is by no means a foregone conclusion. There are still pockets of implacable resistance to Mrs Savage within the health authority."

Mrs Savage, aged 51, an obstetrician for 20 years, has been an outspoken advocate of natural childbirth.

She was suspended in April 1985, pending an investigation of allegations of professional incompetence relating to the birth of five babies under her care in 1983 and 1984.

One child was stillborn and another died eight days after being born. The others are healthy.

Court efficiency 'needs computers'

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Computers should be used to increase courts' efficiency, the Law Commission and Wales says in response to an inquiry by the Lord Chancellor into personal injuries legislation as part of a wider examination of civil justice.

"We should look and plan years ahead," the Bar says. "In this field our present system is years behind." The aim of the Civil Justice Review is to bring about reforms that would cut delays, cost and complexity in civil litigation.

Litigants in personal injury cases, the Bar says, should be protected against the dilatory solicitor by a system which ensures that a court official in the High Court and the county court regularly checks the progress of cases on a computer screen and tails in the solicitors in all cases which have fallen behind the prescribed timetable.

One contributor to the response of the Common Law Bar Association described the possible application of computer technology. "Court computers should log the date of issue of every writ, and of service of every pleading, notification being given to the court by the party serving the pleading."

Failure to comply with a required step would lead to a computer-generated Notice nisi being issued, and at the end of the appropriate period an action would be struck out by the court.

What form a computerized system of case management should take must depend on the outcome of the Civil Justice Review, the Bar says. "Once the review has decided who should be in charge of the computer system - judge, master, administrator or court clerk - and what is required of the computer system, then it can be designed to fit the specification."

The Bar has no doubt that, in principle, use of computers is essential to ensure that some of the most serious problems associated with litigation delays and inefficiencies are removed.

Parties to small, medium and large cases should be encouraged to consent to the arbitration of their disputes.

Broadcast journalism defended

By Gavin Bell Arts Correspondent

Television and radio stations maintain a generally high standard of investigative journalism, but regrettable lapses in research and editing occasionally create unfair and misleading impressions.

The Broadcasting Complaints Commission, expressing that view in its annual report published yesterday, reaffirmed that such programmes performed a valuable public service.

The commission upheld 13 complaints of unjust or unfair treatment, 10 of them only in part, of 20 upon which it had adjudicated in the past year.

High standards of research required for programmes that touched upon reputations were generally attained, the commission said, and it was said therefore to record that there had been occasions on which the quality was disappointing. That was unfortunate because it left investigative journalism open to attack.

The commission also noted with regret "examples of editing which, in their view, were an abuse of the broadcasters' own guidelines".

It was especially important that persons who were criticized should have, save in exceptional circumstances, the opportunity to reply.

When there was time to do so, broadcasters should also inform people in writing of allegations that were likely to be made against them.

Complaints upheld in full were against *Panorama* and *QED* programmes on BBC1 and an *Open Space* broadcast on BBC2. Partial criticism was made of programmes on both BBC channels, various independent television stations and BBC Radio 4.

Dame Barbara Shenfield, national chairman of the Women's Royal Voluntary Service, won adjudications against a *Panorama* programme broadcast in December, 1984, and against *Open Space* for repeating some of the offending material.

Warning on use of cling film in ovens

By Richard Evans

Cling film, the popular food wrapping material, is not suitable for use in cooking, the Government warned last night.

Mr Peggy Fenner, Parliamentary Secretary at the Department of Agriculture, is urging manufacturers of the film to carry a warning on packets after tests revealed that a plasticizer, which is used to soften the film, known as di-2-ethylhexyladipate (DEHA), can perforate closely wrapped food when it is put into an oven.

"I am advised that even this does not indicate the existence of any hazard to human health, but that it does seem to be prudent to avoid such usage if possible."

In a Commons written reply, Mrs Fenner said: "None of the levels of DEHA so far found in food gives any cause for concern on health grounds, but the work of the group is continuing. There is, therefore, no reason for me to restrict the use of the film as a food wrapping material."

Manufacturers of conventional and microwave ovens to provide similar warnings when they sell their products.

"A department working group is investigating plasticizers in all packaging materials."

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"A department working group is investigating plasticizers in all packaging materials."

Post Office private funding

By Bill Johnstone, Technology Correspondent

The 21,000 British post offices comprise the biggest high street retailing chain in the country and could be the one area in the Post Office easily able to attract private finance.

The Government has not disclosed its plans for "introducing private capital" into the Post Office - announced two days ago - but the options open to the Post Office are greater than any other nationalized industry.

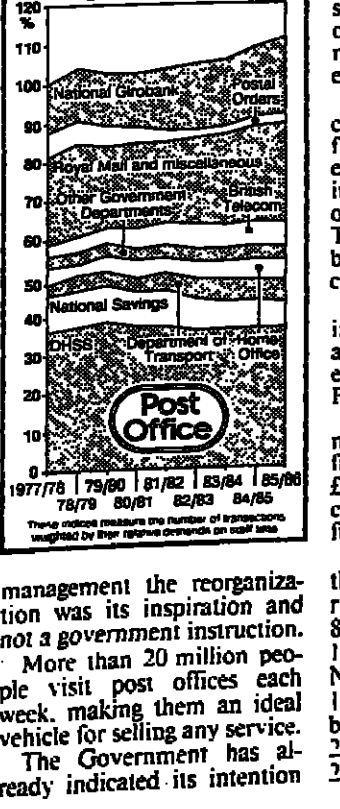
"Instead of raising private finance to fund the corporation generally, its four main activities - parcels, letters, Girobank and counterpost - could be financed separately. In that event the network of post offices would be the most attractive element."

The Post Office appears to have been moving towards attracting private capital for more than a year.

Girobank became a company last September and counters will follow suit this autumn.

Parcels and letters will operate as divisions within the Post Office corporation.

According to Post Office



Realizing a retail potential

By Bill Johnstone, Technology Correspondent

to allow the corporation to offer new services. Partnerships or joint ventures with other retailing groups could mean a vast range of consumer services.

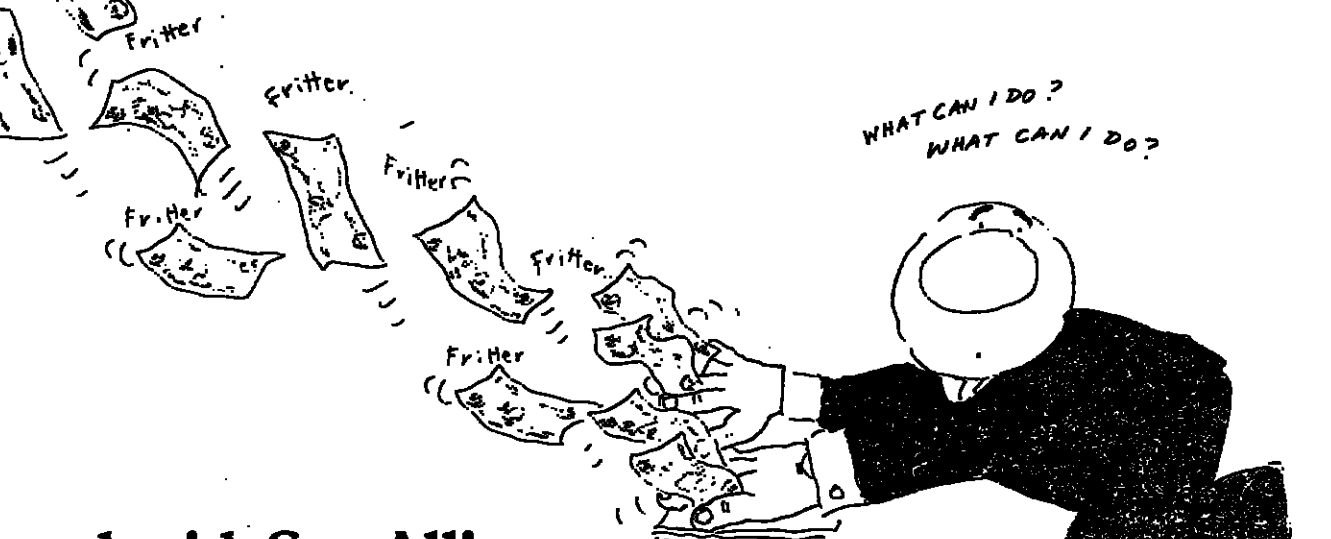
About 2,000 of the prime crown offices (main post offices) are to be equipped with electronic counter terminals in the next five years at a cost of more than £60 million. That network will be backed by £200 million worth of computers.

The cost of sending a letter in Britain is cheaper than in any other European country except Spain, Greece and Portugal.

Last year the Post Office made £136.8 million profits from postal services of which £26.4 million came from counterpost. Girobank made a further £19.4 million.

The cost of inland letters in the EEC: Britain 17p, due to rise to 18p in October; Spain 8.6p; Greece 11.7p; Portugal 13p; Denmark 17.5p; France Netherlands 18.2p; Luxembourg 19.7p; Belgium 19.8p; Luxembourg 21p; West Germany 21.7p; Eire 23p and Italy 27.1p.

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18-20	2,000	100	1,500	3,600	5,000	250	3,750	9,000
21-23	2,000	100	1,500	3,600	5,000	250	3,750	9,000
24-26	2,000	100	1,500	3,600	5,000	250	3,750	9,000
27-29	2,000	100	1,500	3,600	5,000	250	3,750	9,000
30-32	2,000	100	1,500	3,600	5,000	250	3,750	9,000
33-35	2,000	100	1,500	3,600	5,000	250	3,750	9,000
36-38	2,000	100	1,500	3,600	5,000	250	3,750	9,000
39-41	2,000	100	1,500	3,600	5,000	250	3,750	9,000
42-44	2,000	100	1,500	3,600	5,000	250	3,750	9,000
45-47	2,000	100	1,500	3,600	5,000	250	3,750	9,000
48-50	2,000	100	1,500	3,600	5,000	250	3,750	9,000
51-53	2,000	100	1,500	3,600	5,000	250	3,750	9,000
54-56	2,000	100	1,500	3,600	5,000	250	3,750	9,000
57-59	2,000	100	1,500	3,600	5,000	250	3,750	9,000
60-62	2,000	100	1,500	3,600	5,000	250	3,750	9,000
63-65	2,000	100	1,500	3,600	5,000	250	3,750	9,000
66-68	2,000	100	1,500	3,600	5,000	250	3,750	9,000
69-71	2,000	100	1,500	3,600	5,000	250	3,750	9,000
72-74	2,000	100	1,500	3,600	5,000	250	3,750	9,000
75-77	2,000	100	1,500	3,600	5,000	250	3,750	9,000
78-80	2,000	100	1,500	3,600	5,000	250	3,750	9,000
81-83	2,000	100	1,500	3,600	5,000	250	3,750	9,000
84-86	2,000	100	1,500	3,600	5,000	250	3,750	9,000
87-89	2,000	100	1,500	3,600	5,000	250	3,750	9,000
90-92	2,000	100	1,500	3,600	5,000	250	3,750	9,000
93-95	2,000	100	1,500	3,600	5,000	250	3,750	9,000
96-98	2,000	100	1,500	3,600	5,000	250	3,750	9,000
99-101	2,000	100	1,500	3,600	5,000	250	3,750	9,000
102-104	2,000	100	1,500	3,600	5,000	250	3,750	9,000
105-107	2,000	100	1,500	3,600	5,000	250	3,750	9,000
108-110	2,000	100	1,500	3,600	5,000	250	3,750	9,000

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PARLIAMENT JULY 22 1986

Thatcher and the Queen

Rates bill hopes

Howe mission to S Africa might be prelude to PM talks with Botha

Minister sees no need for rates bill increases

APARTHEID

The Prime Minister does not exclude the possibility of having personal talks with President Botha of South Africa...

measures which we should be taking against the South African Government, what weight does the Prime Minister attach to her need to safeguard the position of Her Majesty as head of the Commonwealth?



Townsend: Keep open chance of talks with Botha

soon as possible the system of apartheid and, secondly, to protect the victims of apartheid from any unnecessary and avoidable suffering and bloodshed?

Both these aims must be over-ruled and, secondly, to protect the victims of apartheid from any unnecessary and avoidable suffering and bloodshed?

Mrs Thatcher: I wholly agree with him. It is our aim to end apartheid as soon as possible.

Mr Neil Kinnock: Leader of the Opposition, demanded that Mrs Thatcher should make a categorical statement in favour of sanctions in order to restore participation in the Commonwealth Games.

The issue was first raised by Mr David Steel, leader of the Liberal Party, who asked: In all her considerations with our Commonwealth partners of the

ing in August reaching productive conclusions and at the same time strengthen the hand of the Foreign Secretary on his visit to South Africa?

Will the Prime Minister now make such a categorical statement?

Mrs Thatcher: No. He is asking me to make a categorical statement before the heads of Government meeting considering the matter. That is absurd.

Mr Kinnock: By failing to make such a categorical statement for which the Commonwealth leaders both black and white have repeatedly asked, the Prime Minister is spoiling the Games, rupturing the Commonwealth and sabotaging the mission of her Foreign Secretary.

Does she not realize that the Harare statement was an olive branch, or is she in such a state of paranoia she cannot tell the difference between an olive branch and a club?

The Commonwealth Games do not belong to Britain and not even to Scotland. They belong to the Commonwealth and the countries who are withdrawing are damaging their own Games and our damaging the chances of their own athletes.

Mr Kinnock: One thing she does say that is true is that the Commonwealth Games are not directly her business.

Mrs Thatcher: He is asking us to reach a conclusion before the meeting which meets to consider the matter. That is an absurd way to go about things.

Mr Kinnock: Following the Harare meeting, is it not clear that a categorical statement from the Prime Minister committing the British Government to the imposition of sanctions against South Africa would increase the probability of restoring participation in the Games, would improve the prospects of the heads of Government meet-

Britain's difficult position inside the Community on this issue. Will she at least keep open the possibility of personal talks with State President Botha inside or outside South Africa in the critical weeks ahead?

Mrs Thatcher: The Foreign Secretary goes to South Africa today (Tuesday) to have talks with the President and a number of other people in South Africa. There is more than one set of talks. He may need to go again later.

I should like to consider the results of what he is able to achieve as president of the 12 countries of the Community. I do not exclude what Mr Townsend says.

Mr James Craigie (Glasgow, Tory): Does she not realize that the recent comments about the rift between Number 10 and the Palace has arisen from certain sections of the Tory establishment - (Conservative protestors) who feel that she has been in the job too long as Prime Minister and has developed monarchical tendencies.

Mrs Thatcher: May I make clear once again that I propose to follow the well-established practice of my predecessors and not answer questions, direct or indirect, about the monarchy?

I note that Mr Craigie has no complaints about how the Government is running the affairs of the country.

Mr Joe Ashton (Bassetlaw, Tory): Regarding his comment on the relationship with the Palace, would she comment on her backbenchers and the report on the front page of The Times yesterday which said that Tories accused of Thatcher plot?

What does she intend to do about such treachery? (Laughter) Or is it a plot by the editor of the Tory Times and Rupert Murdoch to drive a wedge between the Palace and the Government?

Mrs Thatcher: I am referring to the Nassau accord. It said: "The heads of Government representatives, after an appropriate time will then meet to review the situation. If in their opinion adequate progress has not been made within this period we shall consider before we conclude."

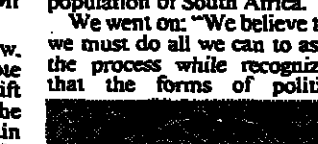
The Leader of the Opposition is following his old trick of reaching a conclusion before the meeting is even held.

Mr Cyril Townsend (Bexleyheath, C): In view of the crisis in South Africa and

will she take this opportunity to clarify her position? Is she in favour of a majority rule for South Africa or not? This House demands an answer.

Mrs Thatcher: I am in favour of the process decided and discussed, and described in the Nassau accord, about apartheid, which sent the Eminent Persons Group to South Africa, when it said: "We agree on the compelling urgency of dismantling apartheid and erecting the structures of democracy in South Africa. The latter, in particular, demands a process of dialogue involving the true representatives of the majority black population of South Africa."

We went on: "We believe that we must do all we can to assist the process while recognizing that the forms of political



Ashton: What is she doing about Tory treachery

settlement in South Africa are for the people of that country - all the people - to determine."

That was the unanimous view of the entire Commonwealth.

Later, an attempt by Mr Richard Caborn (Sheffield Central, Lab) to bring in his South Africa (Sanctions) Bill to provide for the application of the Nassau Accord in relation to sanctions against South Africa, a move was opposed by Mr Cranley Oaker (Woking, C), failed by 243 votes to 196 - majority against, 47.

Parliament today Commons (2.30): Motion on Supplementary Benefit (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations, Social Security Bill, Wages Bill, Agriculture Bill, and Dockyard Services Bill, Lords amendments.

Mrs Llin Golding, the new Labour MP for Newcastle-under-Lyme, took her seat in the Commons.

Mr Henry Bellingham (Norfolk West, C): What extra measures would be put on some of the biggest firms in the land that only pay bills twice or three times a year?

Mr Trippier: I sent the code of practice to the 100 largest firms in the country, a number of whom are guilty of delaying payment of bills.

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More jobs, more work, since 1983

EMPLOYMENT

More than a million jobs had been created in the British economy since the Spring of 1983 and the rate of employment had gone up since the first quarter of 1983.

Mr Kenneth Clarke, Paymaster General and Minister for Employment, said he was replying to Mr John Evans (St Helens North, Lab) who asked him to confirm that despite 16 massings of the figures since the Government took office, the underlying level of unemployment in the country was at the highest point for over 50 years.

Earlier Mr Clarke said the seasonally adjusted level of unemployed claimants in the UK this June represented 11.7 per cent of the working population.

Estimates on a consistent basis for June 1983 and June 1979 were 10.8 and 4.2 respectively.

Prison releases An appeal by Mr Gerrard Neale (North Cornwall, C) for an emergency Commons debate on the basis upon which violent criminals were released from prison on remitted sentences and on parole was rejected by the Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill).

Mr Neale drew attention to a case in Bodmin where a violent criminal, some four years and two months after he had been convicted, was to return to the very locality of his crime and of the family affected by it.

Minister's warning to late bill payers

SMALL FIRMS

If a pilot scheme to encourage voluntary payment by businesses of outstanding bills does not work, legislation may be necessary, Mr David Trippier, Under Secretary of State for Employment, said during Commons question time.

Asked about the response to a guidance booklet on payment of bills he said: I have received a considerable volume of correspondence from public bodies, large and small, and small business organizations, welcoming this initiative.

Many small businesses continue to emphasize the problems that late payment causes them.

Mr Richard Ottaway (Nottingham North, C): He said that if the voluntary code does not work he may introduce legislation, and some of us say that should be sooner rather than later, but how does he intend to monitor the success of the voluntary code?

Mr Trippier: I have one effective way of monitoring the success. There are 130 different codes printed and now I have just recently authorized the reprinting of this one so the demand is considerable.

We may have to consider legislation if the pilot scheme does not work. A number of small firm organizations have indicated to me there are occasions that small firms do not pay the bills of other small firms and

small firms may be responsible for payments to large firms.

Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Lab): Seven years ago this Government was elected on the basis of relieving small firms from the difficulties that surrounded them at that time. Now the Government is hammering small business.

Mr Trippier: That shows how very much out of touch he is with what is actually going on in the small business community. There has been a higher increase of small businesses than in recorded history.

The reason the Government is involved in the code of practice for late payments is that it knows there is a cash problem where large firms delay payment of bills to smaller ones.

Mr Henry Bellingham (Norfolk West, C): What extra measures would be put on some of the biggest firms in the land that only pay bills twice or three times a year?

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Theatre artistic directors defended

THE ARTS

The Minister for the Arts, Mr Richard Luce, had full confidence in the boards of the National Theatre and the Royal Shakespeare Company and in their ability to maintain value for money, Lord Belstead, Deputy Leader of the House, said at question time in the House of Lords.

Lord Nugent of Guildford (C) referred to recent press allegations that the artistic directors of the two theatres, Sir Peter Hall and Mr Trevor Nunn, had made greater profits out of recent successes in their respective theatres when the successes had gone on to Broadway and other

commercial theatres than the two theatres themselves had made.

He said that when such very large sums of taxpayers' money - nearly £13 million - had been granted to the two theatres something more was needed to ensure there was a fair share when greater profits were made.

He added: Will the Government ensure that measures are taken to give the Arts Council greater control of the management so that the taxpayer, who has to finance the losses of these two theatres, gets a fair crack of the whip when they make these successes?

Lord Belstead: It is within the directors' conditions of service that they should be able to be properly rewarded for their

expertise. This is a question of balance between what is due to the companies and what is due to the directors.

Sir Kenneth Cork is chairing an Arts Council inquiry into the funding of the live theatre and the Minister for the Arts has asked him specifically to look at this issue and to produce guidelines for the future.

Lord Belstead: The enormous popular success of the National Theatre and the Royal Shakespeare Company are eloquent of the ability of the directors as well as of the staff and performers.

Lord Mischon (Lab), who said he had been a director of the National Theatre for many years, added: There is great financial control. The nation has been privileged to have two directors of two great companies, Sir Peter Hall and Mr Trevor Nunn, as directors of the subsidised theatre when the commercial world wanted them very badly and would have paid very well for them.

he had been a director of the National Theatre for many years, added: There is great financial control. The nation has been privileged to have two directors of two great companies, Sir Peter Hall and Mr Trevor Nunn, as directors of the subsidised theatre when the commercial world wanted them very badly and would have paid very well for them.

Lord Belstead repeated that the Government had confidence in the ability of the boards to maintain value for money.

Lord Birkett (Ind) said: The suggestion put about recently that Sir Peter Hall and Mr Trevor Nunn have somehow pursued their own distinguished careers at the expense of the theatres they direct is absurd.

RSG SETTLEMENT

Proposals to put pressure on local authorities which over-spend their budgets - and to achieve stability in their spending and rates demands - were announced by Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, in a Commons statement.

He said he would: Introduce legislation to end the paradox of some erring councils getting part of their withheld grant money returned to them under the Government's recycling procedures.

Publish a report detailing how local authorities would be chosen for ratecapping in the next financial year - a formula linked to spending patterns going back as far as five years.

Introduce a system of borrowing schemes that were passed off as though they were expenditure.

Mr Ridley said the Rate Support Grant Settlement for 1987-88 should allow either no increases, or only very low ones, in rate bills if local authorities budgeted responsibly.

Dr John Canningham, chief Opposition spokesman on the environment, condemned the settlement as cleverly worded and evaded, but grotesquely misleading. He accused Mr Ridley of reducing spending and increasing penalties on all local authorities.

Mr Ridley contended that the settlement meant that high rate bills, or poor standards of service, or both, would be entirely the fault of the authorities concerned.

For local authority current expenditure, he was proposing a 2.5 per cent increase. That was a cash increase of £2.9 billion - or 3.4 per cent - over the sum given in the 1987-88 Public Expenditure White Paper.

This represents a reasonable assessment - says what local authorities will spend (he said) given the level of inflation and their past pattern of spending.

But it does not follow that I believe local authorities need to spend at this level. There is widespread scope for carrying out services more efficiently and for cutting out extravagant provision.

For that reason, he was reviewing and would consult local authorities about the aggregate of Grant Related Expenditure (GRE) that would be kept these broadly steady in real terms.

He was proposing about £1.25 billion in Aggregate Exchequer Grant (AEG).

This would maintain the level of relevant expenditure - the same as in the current financial year. But it amounted to a cash increase of more than £1 billion.

If local authorities spend in line with the generous provision we have made (he said) there would be no need for rates bills to increase at all - able to plan their budgets and rates with much greater assurance.

For councils that the Government would be ratecapping for a second consecutive financial year, he would be adding provision that even if their spending plans were not 12 1/2 per cent above GRE, they could still be limited if they were more than 20 per cent up on their 1982-83 levels.

The newcomers to ratecapping were: Brent, Brighton, Gateshead, Hounslow, Middlesbrough, Newham, North Tyneside, Sheffield and Tower Hamlets.

The other incorrigibles, who would be re-selected, were: Basildon, Greenwich, Hackney, Haringey, Islington, Lambeth, Lewisham, Newcastle, Southwark and Thamesdown.

I am (he said) open to representations for redetermination of anything to do with rates. He would be introducing legislation to ensure that such expenditure was incurred in the proper year - regardless of when the authority paid.

This would apply to all such arrangements - and other arrangements with similar effect.

Minister sees no need for rates bill increases

entered into in England and Wales after midnight (Tuesday). I am considering exemption (he said) so that authorities which genuinely need to use the device for its proper purpose for an occasional project are not disadvantaged.

Any such exemption would take effect from a date to be announced.

Dr Canningham said the Government wanted to reduce grant-related aggregates and increase penalties on all local authorities by making the slope for spending over GRE steeper and more punitive than ever before.

The Government was effectively saying: Here is additional money in the settlement, which will be taken away later, almost certainly in at least equal amount.

Did not that mean a massive windfall for the Treasury - up to, and perhaps beyond, £1 billion - to be used for purposes other than local authority spending?

Any improvement in efficiency which local authorities might be able to achieve would amount to less than 1 per cent of total planned expenditure.

Mr Ridley replied that he wondered whether Dr Canningham had seen a copy of the right statement. (Laughter).

He had never heard a poorer response to a statement that was generally welcomed by MPs, nor a more incompetent analysis.

Mr John Hebble (Mid-Suffolk, Lab) said it was no coincidence that of the 20 ratecapped authorities, 19 were Labour controlled and one, Tower Hamlets, was Liberal controlled.

Industry and commerce in other cities would be grateful for this protection so that they can go about creating jobs and work.

Mr Simon Hughes (Southwark and Bermondsey, L) welcomed the increase of nearly £3 million. The view of the local authorities was that the increase only took into account inflation over the past few years and probably would not even compensate for increases in wages they would have to pay for police, teachers and other public officers.

The capital controls were the one thing that local authorities most resented. They wanted to spend their capital as they chose and not have a Secretary of State dictate to them that they could spend less and less of it every year that went by.

Mr Ridley said local authorities must be responsible for the wages they negotiated with their employees.

Authorities would get more grant provided they did not forfeit it by engaging in overspending.

Sir Ian Gilmour (Chesham and Amersham, C) said much of the trouble this year was caused not by the local authority but by the Government setting a taper point for the reduction of grant in totally the wrong place.

Would he assure them that nothing so unjust and ridiculous could happen under the state-ment just announced?

Mr Ridley said much of what Sir Ian had said had been incorporated into the statement.

Mr Alan Bebb (Boole, Lab) said this was a serious attack on local government. Mr Ridley would claw back and keep most of the so-called extra £1 billion.

Mr Ridley: With so many local authorities in the hands of Labour or hung it is right that the Government should do something to protect their unfortunate ratepayers and victims. There is no excuse after this rate support grant settlement for any authority raising its rates by more than a small amount or zero. If they do, that will be the fault of their own irresponsible ratepayers.

Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark (Birmingham, Selly Oak, C): Cities like Birmingham have very special problems. What hopes are there for Birmingham in this settlement? Will we get more money or will we not, or are the sums to continue? Which is it?

Mr Ridley: It entirely depends on how much money Birmingham budgets to spend. If it budgets to spend in accordance with this year's spending plus 3.4 per cent it will maximize its grant take.

Richardson, who had been fined £20,000 by the judge, was yesterday ordered to pay the prosecution's costs of the two-day appeal hearing, not to exceed £25,000.

Richardson, of Jubilee House, Jubilee Farm, Hutton, had also been given a nine-month suspended sentence after his conviction on June 1, 1984, of conspiring to defraud bookmakers and the betting public.

Colin Scott Mathison, aged 48, of Wold View, Road North, Driffield, was fined £3,000, and Peter Boddy, aged 40, of Hazel Close, Driffield, was conditionally discharged for a year.

Mr Cuff adjourned the inquest until September.

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Immigration figures More accepted to settle in the UK By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent The number of people accepted for settlement in the United Kingdom has risen again. At 55,400, the total was about 4,400 more than in 1984 and 1,900 more than in 1983.

Sick man left hours in corridor Three lose Flockton Grey plea Three North Humberston men, involved in the 1982 "Flockton Grey" racing scandal, yesterday lost appeals against their fraud convictions.

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COMMENTARY



Geoffrey Smith

The Prime Minister refused to be drawn into any comment on the rift with the Palace when she answered questions in the House of Commons yesterday. She was wise on both political and constitutional grounds.

Mrs Thatcher personally, and the Government collectively, have almost certainly been damaged politically by the episode. One of its most disturbing consequences is the probability that some of the mud will stick, even though there is no evidence that the Queen personally authorized any leak of her opinions.

Already, authorization or no authorization, one encounters a widespread assumption that the report did, indeed, reflect Her Majesty's judgement of Mrs Thatcher. When an extremely popular queen is believed to think poorly of her prime minister that is bound to be embarrassing to the prime minister.

All the more so when the specific criticisms appear to reinforce the doubts that many people have about Mrs Thatcher. "If she cannot get on with the Queen," they will tend to say, "then she really must be impossible."

Thatcher 'no right to answer back' This is extremely unfair, on Mrs Thatcher. She has now been placed in the position so often occupied by the Palace. She has been attacked without having the right to answer back.

If she was tempted to do so, she was sensible not to succumb. The more that is made of the episode, the more Mrs Thatcher is likely to suffer. It was, therefore, shrewd politics not to fan the flames.

But there was another more important reason why the Prime Minister was right to behave yesterday with impeccable constitutional propriety. The belief that the Sovereign is above party politics, and therefore takes no position in public for or against the controversial policies of any government, is essential to the role of constitutional monarchy as it has evolved in this country. To undermine that belief would be to diminish in the long run the value of the monarchy itself.

It is tragic for British public life that this episode will now have placed a question mark in many people's minds where there ought to be unquestioning confidence. No matter how unfairly, the Queen will be thought to have taken a position on a range of contentious policies and to be less than enthusiastic about her Ministers.

This is an impression that ought to be just as disturbing to the Opposition parties as to the Government. In the short run they might hope to gain from Mrs Thatcher's disfigurement. But that would be a short-sighted attitude.

An Alliance stake in impartiality In the long run they must know that parties of the Left would probably be even more likely to suffer from speculation that the Sovereign disapproved of them and their policies.

Labour's leadership may well have recognized this. It was notable that Neil Kinnock made no attempt yesterday to make political capital out of the incident.

The Alliance would, if anything, have an even stronger interest in preserving public confidence in the Queen's political impartiality. As both David Steel and David Owen made clear at last year's party conferences, their hopes are focussed on negotiating with one or other of the larger parties in a hung parliament.

The prospects for such negotiations would be better if the Queen were not prepared to grant a second dissolution automatically to a government that was voted down in the Commons; if it seemed that another administration might be formed that could command a majority in the House.

This stronger interpretation of the royal prerogative would, to my mind, be entirely justified. That is the field in which the Queen would serve the national interest by asserting her political responsibilities. But it could be done without too much contention only if there was general confidence in the political impartiality of the Palace.

There is a general interest among all parties in preserving the traditional belief that the Crown is above partisan politics. Mrs Thatcher did her best to reassert that tradition yesterday. It is a cause that deserves support from every quarter.

Air may smoo Pensioner loses fight to work on Hated vill complain King David

Aircraft passengers may be made to wear smoke hoods in fires

By Michael Baily, Transport Editor

Passengers on British airlines may be required to wear smoke hoods of the gas mask type in case of aircraft fire from next year.

The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) which said yesterday that a big international safety drive was needed to restore public confidence in air travel, has launched an inquiry into smoke hoods after last year's accident at Manchester airport where 55 people died in a fire after a British Airways flight failed to take off.

Of those, nearly 50 are thought to have been killed by smoke or flames rather than from flames, and smoke hoods have long been advocated as a means of saving life in such circumstances.

Other accidents last year — the worst for air deaths for 20 years — included the Air India and Japan Airlines 747 disasters in which a total of 849 people died.

Mr Christopher Tugendhat, authority chairman, introducing his annual report, promised yesterday that the smoke hoods study, involving consultation with, among others, airlines and user bodies, would be carried out with great urgency.

Results should be available in the autumn and implemented

later may follow next year if the authority decides to go ahead.

If it does so decide all airlines registered in Britain would be fitted with smoke hoods that would almost certainly drop down automatically to the passenger's face as oxygen masks do now. The two types of mask may be combined.

Sealing off the atmosphere except through a filter, the simpler hoods would protect against fumes for up to five minutes in fires on the ground. Dearer versions suitable for fires in the air would protect wearers for about twenty minutes.

But Mr Tugendhat said that hoods had disadvantages. The most important guarantee of safety in case of fire is to get out of the aircraft as quickly as possible, he said, and hoods could cause delay.

They could mist up through condensation, make it more difficult to hear cabin staff instructions, and — though he did not say this — could cause suffocation through lack of oxygen if not properly designed.

Several smoke hoods are on the market at prices between £20 and £100.

They are fitted to all naval vessels and are supplied to

fight staff of various British and other airlines. Mr Tugendhat said that there was a big difference between the use of hoods by highly trained crews and by holidaymakers.

The only previous move in this direction was in the 1960s when the US Federal Aviation Administration made a study of the hoods, but it decided against the idea.

On air safety generally, Mr Christopher Tugendhat said: "The tragic accidents last year in different parts of the world, and especially the Manchester accident last August, have engaged the most serious and continuing attention of the authority's safety services."

The circumstances surrounding these accidents were different in every case, but the fact that they took place in such a short period of time and led to such a large loss of life has undoubtedly shaken public confidence.

This year, Mr Tugendhat said, had turned out so far to have an excellent safety record. But constant vigilance was necessary and, in addition to smoke hoods, the authority was acquiring or investigating fire resistant seats, cabin walls and ceilings, easier access to emergency exits, more fire extinguishers, and smoke detectors in lavatories.

Tourism boost for Falkland Islands

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

Up to 200 tourists are expected to be flown by the Royal Air Force to the Falkland Islands this winter in the first big effort to build up tourism since the conflict of 1982.

The RAF operates the only air service into the islands, making up to three flights a week. Those are primarily used for carrying troops and supplies to and from the garrison, but the Ministry of Defence said spare seats could be made available to the Falkland Islands government.

Mr Stephen Green, British representative for Falkland Islands Tourism, said that five British tour operators and one in the United States, were offering bookings for 20 parties between November and next March, which is the Falklands' summer.

Most of the parties are being limited to eight people, though two, which will be accommodated solely in Port Stanley, will have up to 16 members each. The cost of the trips, including the flight and accommodation, will be about £2,500 a person.

Most interest was being shown in the islands' wildlife, but diving holidays, and other activities were being catered for, Mr Green said.



Mr Harold "Dickie" Bird, the cricket umpire, displaying the insignia of the MBE, with which he was invested by the Queen at Buckingham Palace yesterday.

Mr Bird, aged 53, a Yorkshireman, regarded by many as the world's best umpire, told the Queen it was the happiest day of his life. It was cricket's morning, Mr George "Gubby" Allen, aged 84, a former England captain who was capped 25 times and has been a powerful figure at Lord's for 65 years, was knighted.

Tories to penalize councils lacking civil defence plans

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

The Government is to act against local authorities which do not produce proper civil defence plans. Already ministers are considering withholding grants from Avon, Mid Glamorgan and South Glamorgan county councils.

Many of the plans received from 50 other county authorities are incomplete. With few exceptions, there is little or no operational detail and in a number little more than a statement of intent, the Home Office said yesterday.

Mr Giles Shaw, Minister of State, said the Government proposed to require authorities to pursue a rolling three-year programme, setting six monthly targets for the staged completion of detailed operational civil defence plans in all counties within two to three years.

Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, has reserve powers to give directions to local authorities on the exercise of their functions or, ultimately, to exercise them himself.

The sanction so far threatened is withholding civil defence grants, which have risen from £3.4 million in 1979-80 to an expected £13.7 million in 1986-87.

Behind the Government's action are the results of a questionnaire in 1984, which disclosed that, although most authorities in England and Wales had plans against hostile attack, the majority needed further work.

Almost all authorities had made some provision for emergency centres, but just over half needed to bring them up to the required level. Training took place almost everywhere, but more was needed. One or more volunteer groups existed in about two thirds of the authorities responding. More needed to be established.

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Sleep walker's death

Mr Robert Baker, aged 76, a retired executive, died when he fell from a second floor window when sleep walking, an inquest in Bristol was told yesterday.

Mr Baker had a long history of sleep walking and was found dead at 6.30am, still in his pyjamas, by a paper boy

Dominic Prout, aged 14, told the inquest in written evidence that when he looked up he could see a second floor window wide open and that the front door to the same flat had also been wide open.

A verdict of accidental death was returned.

Pensioner loses fight to work on

A woman who claimed her Hampshire employers were guilty of sex discrimination because they made her retire at the age of 60 has lost her case.

Andrey Frew, a lettering designer of Chichester, Basingstoke, was forced to retire last month by a private Basingstoke printing firm, so she took them to a Southampton industrial tribunal, at which Miss Helen Marshall, a senior dietician, had begun her long fight to win the right for women in the public sector to work until they are 65.

The tribunal had rejected the claim of Miss Marshall, aged 62, of Bassetts, Southampton, that the local health authority's decision that she had to retire at 60 was "sexual discrimination."

She appealed to the European Court of Justice, which decided that under EEC law it was discrimination, and the Government is considering the legal implications.

But the tribunal has decided unanimously that Miss Frew's claim is not well founded.

She told the hearing that she knew she could not rely directly on Miss Marshall's case, but said it should "have regard" to the European court ruling.

She claimed it was unfair that she was forced to retire because she wanted to carry on working as men did, which allowed them to build up their pensions.

She also argued that she had the same bills to pay. The company, Thomas de la Rue, said she could not rely on the ruling because it applied only to member nations acting as employers.

Woolen labelling 'abused'

By Robin Young

Almost half the textile product samples taken by West Yorkshire trading standards department over the past two years have been deficient of their stated wool content by more than 10 per cent.

In an article in *The Monthly Review*, the journal of the Institute of Trading Standards Administration, Mr Keith Hurley, director of the West Yorkshire service, says that of 452 samples, 208 were found to have labels overstating the wool content by more than 10 per cent. In two thirds of the cases, the cloth was found to have been imported from Italy.

Mr Hurley suggests that unfair competition in textile labelling has contributed to the rapid loss of jobs in Britain's textiles and clothing industry since 1978.

In some cases, he cites garments were marked "Pure New Wool" and carried the Woolmark symbol, yet proved to be one fifth polyester. One blouse claiming a 30 per cent wool content contained no wool at all, and a dress which was supposed to be half wool had only 4 per cent.

Mr Hurley says British manufacturers insisted on making claims that could not be substantiated, though they had made no checks, and knew that increasing amounts of cloth came from Italian mills specializing in producing mixed fibre yarn from recycled materials.

The Department of Trade's draft guidelines to new fibre content labelling regulations would further encourage widespread misstatements about the wool content of articles made with recycled yarn, he said.

'Hated village squire' complaint rejected

The Press Council has rejected a complaint about a *Daily Express* report of a village dispute which included hostile remarks about the squire.

The report said the village of Matfield, Kent, was angry at moves by the squire to throw Mr Jack Luery, aged 81, his gardener who was sick, out of a tied cottage.

Mrs Mary Jenner, of Matfield, was quoted saying Sir William Garthwaite, the squire, was hated by virtually everyone in Matfield for his actions.

Mrs Jenner complained to the editor about that and other quotes, and later to the Press Council that the article attributed to her comments she did not make.

She had made no personal comment about Sir William; the word "hate" was not in her vocabulary.

Mr Struan Cooper, managing editor, said both reporters involved insisted their accounts were true but Mrs

Jenner maintained that Mr Christopher Murphy, a freelance, misquoted her, and Mr Robert McGowan, a staff reporter, did not speak to her.

A transcript of Mr McGowan's notes recorded that he read to Mrs Jenner notes given to him by Mr Murphy, and that Mrs Jenner said that sounded about right.

Mrs Jenner told the council she did not make the alleged remarks to Mr Murphy; he asked her various questions and she agreed with him. He did not write anything down in her presence, she said, and there had been no follow-up call from the newspaper.

The Press Council concluded the complainant had failed to satisfy it that she did not generally express the sentiments ascribed to her in the report.

The quotation attributed to her may well not have been a direct statement, but assent to comments put to her. The Press Council was not satisfied that it was misleading.

King David's poppies

A small group of former servicemen and women placed a wreath of poppies at the Cenotaph in Whitehall, London, yesterday to commemorate the fortieth anniversary of the bombing of the King David Hotel in Jerusalem.

Mr Peter Williams, a war veteran and spokesman for the group Campaign Against Terrorism, said the attack on the British headquarters at the King David Hotel on July 22,

1946, which killed 123 people, marked the start of international terrorism.

He said the British Government had ignored the "terrible significance" of the terrorist attack during the past 40 years.



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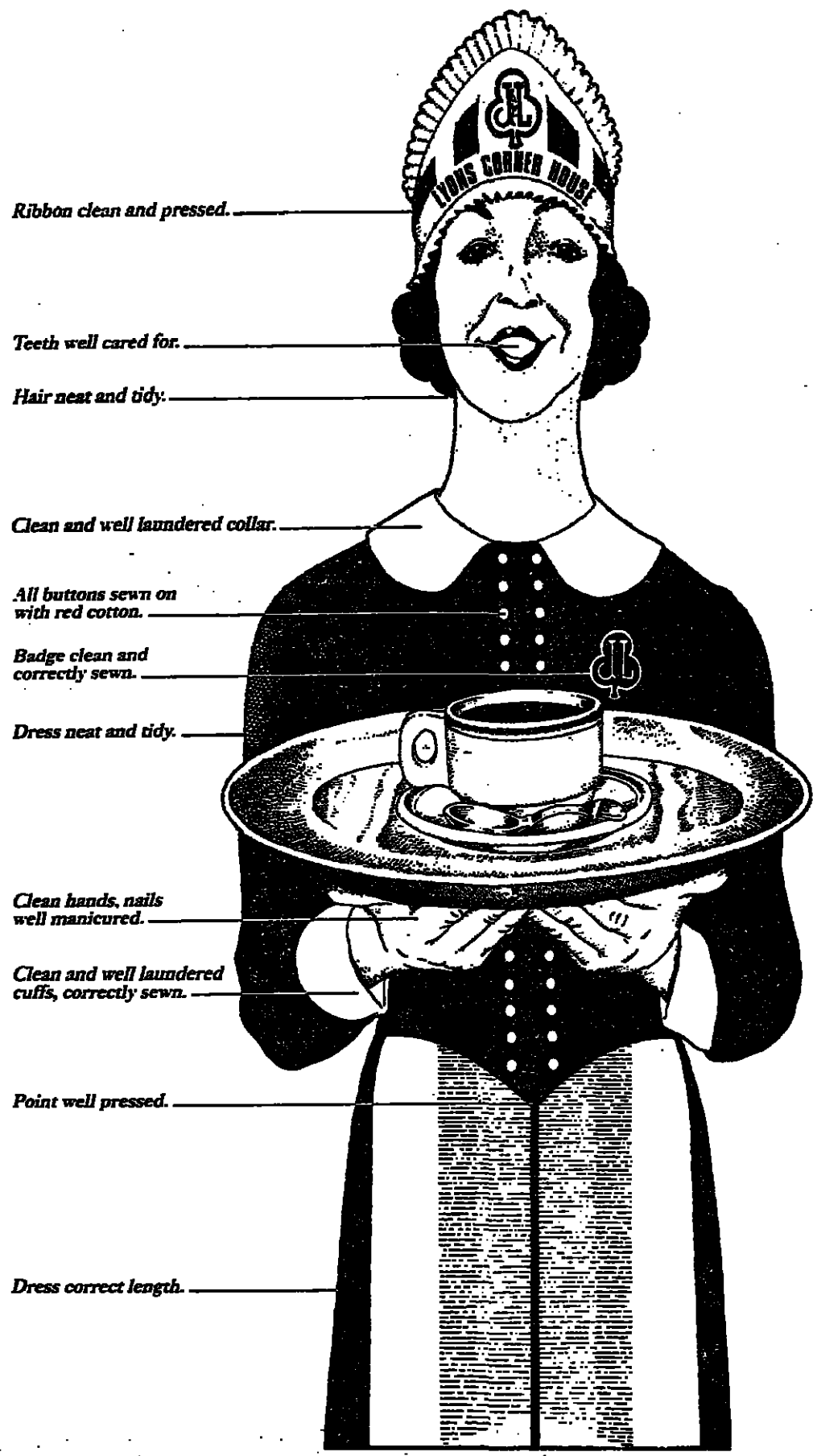
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Clean and well laundered cuffs, correctly sewn.

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GOING ON GROWING

Isra
Peres
comm
on pea

Moscow

Rocket attack
on Spanish
fishing vessel

González

Man in the news

Israeli premier seeks negotiations before Shamir takes over

Peres tries to commit rival on peace talks

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

With less than three months of his allotted term as Prime Minister left to serve, Mr Shimon Peres has joined a new Middle East peace initiative which he cannot hope will succeed before he has to hand over to his arch-rival, Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Likud leader.

Mr Peres, who has always said he is prepared to negotiate Israeli-occupied land for peace, has gone to Morocco to try to persuade King Hassan that meaningful negotiations to solve the Palestinian problem must start very quickly or risk being delayed for years.

The new initiative, apparently taken with American advice, has been to try to use King Hassan, the Chairman of the Arab League, as a broker to open direct negotiations between Israel, King Husain of Jordan and acceptable Palestinians. The timetable is short because the idea of "land for peace" is rejected outright by Mr Shamir, who, under the terms of the Israeli coalition government agreement, takes over on October 11.

The Moroccan King is known to have been in regular contact with senior Israeli officials and politicians, including Mr Peres, and he is always regarded here as being well disposed towards Israel, although prevented by Arab solidarity from showing any public signs of friendship.

This has meant that even the present visit has been kept a closely-guarded secret. Yesterday both the Prime Minister's office and the Foreign Ministry have refused to confirm formally that it was taking place. "There is no way I can confirm this visit at this time," a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

It is understood that Mr Peres and the King agreed that no confirmation of the trip would be given until their meeting had taken place. The fact that it was widely leaked is seen as a likely sign that Mr Shamir, who as Foreign Minister was not even involved in the planning, wanted the news released.

King Hassan cancelled a planned visit to the United States in order to see Mr Peres and it is likely that he hopes any help he gives Israel will in turn improve his strained relations with Washington.

During the visit King Hassan is expected to sound out Mr Peres on how far the Israeli leader is prepared to go to achieve peace. This is

something the King has recommended to Arab leaders, to whom he suggested some time ago inviting a senior Israeli politician for talks.

For Mr Peres a successful visit is essential to improve his public standing following a loss of personal popularity after his uncertain handling of the "Shin Bet affair", concerning irregularities in the counter-intelligence agency.

He is known to have become increasingly frustrated with the lack of progress in the peace process, which he had made one of his priorities on coming to office in October, 1984.

He is also known to be worried that Mr Shamir sees little or no need to pursue the peace process. He believes that only by starting something which his successor cannot stop can he be sure of any negotiations having a chance after he hands over control of the government.

It was not clear here yesterday whether Mr Peres decided to travel to Morocco after some kind of exchange with King Husain of Jordan. One of the Moroccan King's advisers, Mr Mohammed Awad, travelled to Amman on Monday to see King Husain.

King Hassan is reported to have telephoned Amman at the weekend to learn at first hand about relations with the Palestine Liberation Organization following the closure of Fatah offices in Jordan earlier this month.

Jordan radio so far has only announced that the visit is taking place, with no comment. Mr Peres is due back in Israel today, when he is expected to brief the Cabinet on what has been achieved. He is already sure of an angry reception from the Right Wing, with Mrs Guela Cohen of the Tehiya Party already accusing him of being ready to hand over the West Bank, just as the Sinai was handed over to Egypt.

Moderate Palestinians in the occupied territories, of the kind who could be included in a peace negotiation of this type, have welcomed the visit. Mr Elias Freij, the mayor of Bethlehem, called it "a courageous and wise step". Mr Hanna Siniora, editor of the East Jerusalem newspaper Al Fajr, said that if the visit failed "radicalization will grow and we must prepare for conflict. The chances for peace will recede for the next 15 or 20 years."



Fists raised in the Arab world as Mr George Habbash, leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, left, declares that the visit by Mr Shimon Peres of Israel to King Hassan of Morocco, right, could only deepen Arab divisions.

Syria's fury with King Hassan fails to arouse Arab world

From Robert Fisk Beirut

In a savage but lonely outburst of anger, Syria yesterday denounced King Hassan's "black treason" and broke off diplomatic relations with Morocco in protest at the King's meeting with Mr Shimon Peres, the Israeli Prime Minister. But - save for some particularly vindictive editorials in leftist newspapers in Beirut - the Arab world responded mildly to the first meeting between an Arab and an Israeli leader since President Sadat's visit to Jerusalem in 1977.

An incredulous Colonel Gaddafi in Libya said he could "not believe this visit has really taken place" but contented himself by saying that if the two men had met then it was "a grave violation" of the 1984 Moroccan-Libyan treaty which might now have to be reconsidered through a referendum. This was scarcely the reaction expected of an Arab leader who once regarded himself as Nasser's spiritual heir.

Indeed, it was a sign of how vulnerable the Arabs now feel themselves to be - and how powerless amid their own disunity - that an event which would once have convulsed Arab capitals was greeted with little more than vague sur-

prise. The Egyptians even went so far as to offer their support to the visit.

Mr Yasser Arafat's Palestine Liberation Organization - which has good reason to suspect that the meeting will only serve to betray it - remained uncharacteristically silent.

Nevertheless, King Hassan will have to make personal security one of his prime concerns. There was a clear warning in the prediction of the daily *al-Hakika* that, like President Sadat, he would

ultimately be assassinated.

In Damascus, Syrian state radio quoted a government statement which urged all Arab leaders to follow President Assad's example of breaking off diplomatic relations with Morocco, advice which was not followed up by Syria's friends elsewhere in the Arab world.

Syrian citizens will henceforth be forbidden to visit Morocco and Mr Abdul-Wahab ben Massoud, the Moroccan Ambassador to Syria - who was summoned to the

Foreign Ministry in Damascus yesterday to be told of President Assad's displeasure - has been given a week to close down his embassy and leave the country with his four Moroccan diplomatic colleagues. Mr Ahmed Issa, the Syrian Ambassador in Rabat, has been ordered to return home.

Most Arab speculation was directed yesterday towards Amman where King Husain spent much of Monday in a series of discussions - on the phone and by letter - with

Rabat (Reuters) - King Hassan of Morocco, a leading Arab moderate, strongly advocates harmony between Muslims and Jews - communities that have lived side by side in his country for centuries.

His frequent pleas for religious tolerance have spilled into the political domain as a result of his contacts with leaders from Israel, where there is a large Jewish community of Moroccan origin.

In 1984 and again last May, his Government gave warm official welcomes to large Israeli delegations composed of Jews who had emigrated from Morocco, including several members of the Knesset.

The King, who in April said "there is no shame in discussing things with one's enemy", sponsored contacts in Morocco between Israeli and Egyptian envoys that led to the historic visit of President Sadat of Egypt to Jerusalem in 1977.

That visit brought vehement protests from radical Arab states such as Syria, which recalled its ambassador in 1984 and yesterday broke off relations in protest at the visit to Morocco this week by Mr Peres.

Diplomats and Moroccan

political commentators say the King is taking serious risks over the Peres visit, considering that he was chairman of the last Arab summit in Fez in 1982 and is now the chairman of the Islamic Conference Organization - which he founded thus establishing himself as an Islamic leader.

The King also contributed to the rapprochement between President Sadat and Israel that led to the Camp David accords, but complied with an Arab League decision to break off relations with Cairo when Egypt made peace with Israel in 1979.

In 1982 he signed a military co-operation accord with the US granting it transit facilities on Moroccan bases in the event of a crisis in the Gulf.

In the stormy world of Arab and African politics, King Hassan - once dubbed "the great survivor" - has maintained his hold on power despite several attempts to assassinate or overthrow him. These included a miraculous escape when 1,400 rebel troops stormed his seaside palace on his 42nd birthday in July 1971 and killed nearly 100 of his guests.

Moscow condemns trip to Rabat

Moscow - Tass strongly attacked yesterday the trip to Rabat of Mr Shimon Peres, saying it was an attempt to revive the Camp David peace process, which had been "resolutely rejected by the Arabs"

Harare pulls out of two more events

Harare - Zimbabwe is to boycott the Commonwealth Arts Festival and the World Disabled Games in Stoke Mandeville unless the British Government promises sanctions against South Africa.

South China storm leaves 1,000 missing

Hong Kong (Reuters) - More than 300 Chinese fishing boats and about 1,000 fishermen are missing after a tropical storm lashed south China.

Rocket attack on Spanish fishing vessel

Madrid - Rocket grenades and automatic weapons were fired at a Spanish fishing vessel from two Zodiac launches off the Western Sahara, setting the boat on fire and killing one of its 20 crew members, according to radio reports received here yesterday (Harry Debelius writes).

South China storm leaves 1,000 missing

A troupe of 17 ostrich-plumed Ndebele war dancers from western Zimbabwe and six paraplegic athletes with two officials were due to leave for Britain on Monday night.

South China storm leaves 1,000 missing

No reports of casualties had been received. Many boats might have taken shelter near offshore islands, but authorities feared some of the missing fishermen had drowned.

Eta attack rocks Spain

González defends his tactics

Madrid - Señor Felipe González, Spain's Socialist leader, under strain now because of the terrorist attack on the Defence Ministry here, put before Parliament yesterday his government programme for the next four years.

Eta attack rocks Spain

González defends his tactics

night to appeal to Spaniards to stay calm. On Eta, the Basque armed separatist organization, he said: "If it is negotiations they want, they can abandon all hope, the Government will never give in to terrorist blackmail."

Eta attack rocks Spain

González defends his tactics

Señor González defended the Spanish security forces' anti-terrorist tactics, now under renewed heavy criticism, as "adequate". But he admitted the police had failed to break up Eta's "Spain commando" and the "important" infrastructure it now evidently has in Madrid. It was a failure shared with the Government, he said.

The only encouraging news Señor González could offer viewers was the promise earlier in the day from M Jacques Chirac, the French Prime Minister, that from now on France would not permit the south-west corner of its territory to serve as base from which Eta can prepare its

attacks on Spanish targets. He told viewers that he had written immediately to M Chirac to thank him. Only one of the eight injured in the grenade attack was still in hospital yesterday. The breakup of Señor Manuel Fraga's opposition coalition was confirmed yesterday when his own party, Popular Alliance, indicated it will no longer observe any electoral pacts with its former Christian Democrat partners.

PARIS: A second presumed member of Eta, Juan Nafarrete Arreche, has been "urgently" expelled from France to Spain (Susan MacDonald writes). His expulsion was carried out under the same conditions as that of another presumed Eta member, José Varona Lopez, last Friday night. Both men are Spanish nationals and do not hold political refugee status in France, despite having lived in the French Basque country.

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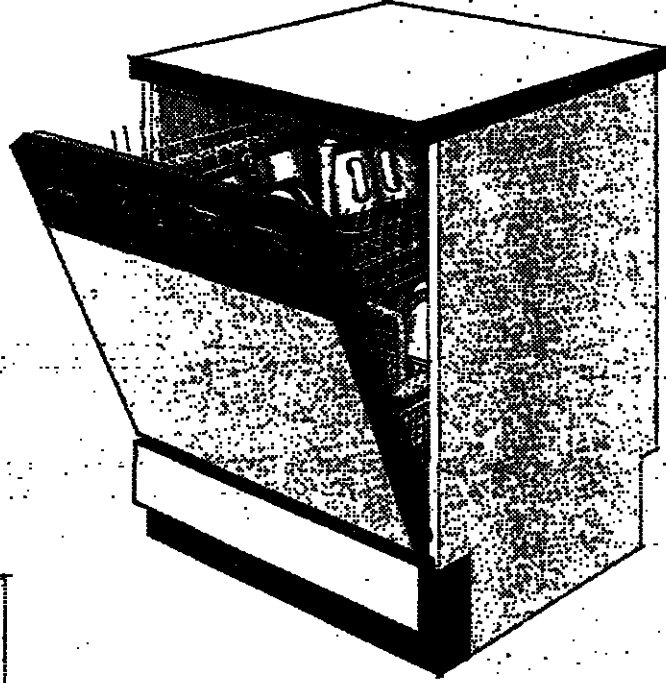
PUTS THE OTHERS IN THE SHADE

Household Appliances Greatly Reduced

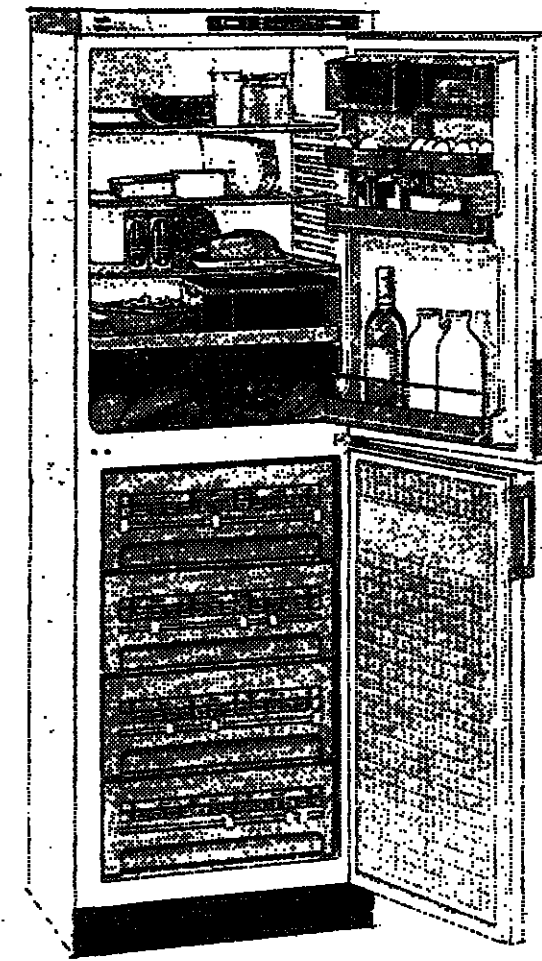


Examples from **AMANA**
 Left: **Fridge/Freezer SDI-25**
 Frost-free. Three-door 'Ice 'n' Water' refrigerator. 15.99 cu. ft. Two freezer compartments, 8.74 cu. ft. Meat/fruit drawers. Adjustable glass shelving. On rollers. Requires plumbing. White, Almond or Autumn Gold. 172x91x78 cm. Made in USA.
 Harrods Usual Price £2,195 Sale Price £1,645
Fridge/Freezer TR 18, not shown
 Frost-free. Fridge 13.28 cu. ft. Freezer 4.5 cu. ft. Reversible meat drawer. Two crisper drawers, one humidity-controlled. Adjustable shelving. Can be built-in. White, Almond or Autumn Gold. 166x77x81 cm. Made in USA.
 Harrods Usual Price £1,035 Sale Price £775

Examples from **MIELE**
 Right: **Automatic Dishwasher G 522**
 Four programmes. Water softener fitted. Decor frame fitted. Salt and rinse aid indicators. Stainless steel interior. Adjustable feet for uneven floors. Dark Brown fascia. 85x60x60 cm. Made in West Germany.
 Harrods Usual Price £536 Sale Price £450
Washing Machine W 754S, not shown
 11lb. load. 1100rpm spin speed. Cold fill. Half-load and economy programmes. Variable temperatures, cold to 95°C. Dark Brown fascia. 85x60x60 cm. Made in West Germany.
 Harrods Usual Price £630 Sale Price £509



Examples from **BOSCH**
 Left: **Fridge/Freezer KGE 330**
 Electronically controlled. Fridge 6.5 cu. ft. Automatic defrosting. Fresh food container. Freezer 4.1 cu. ft. Super-fast freezing. 18kg. in 24 hours. White, with Beige trim. 187x60x60 cm. Made in West Germany.
 Harrods Usual Price £474 Sale Price £389
Washing Machine V651, not shown
 Over 20 washing programmes, including wool. 1000rpm spin speed. Hot and cold fill. Variable temperatures, 30°C to 95°C. Half-load and economy buttons. White with Grey trim. 85x60x60 cm. Made in West Germany.
 Harrods Usual Price £563 Sale Price £449



Examples from **AEG**
 Right: **Turbo Washer Dryer 2060**
 Quick-drying. 11lb. washing load. 5.5lb. drying. 1100/800rpm spin speed. Half-load and economy programmes. Cold fill. Brown fascia. 85x60x60 cm. Made in West Germany.
 Harrods Usual Price £727 Sale Price £599
Dishwasher G25, not shown
 Twelve place settings. Six programmes, with push-button control. Three temperatures. Salt and rinse and refill indicators. Anti-flood system. Stainless steel interior. Brown fascia. 85x60x60 cm. Made in West Germany.
 Harrods Usual Price £483 Sale Price £399
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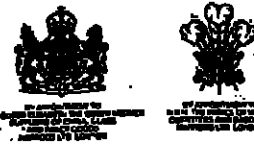
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Briton jailed on drug charge

Colombo - A British national was sentenced to 6½ years' rigorous imprisonment yesterday in the Negombo Magistrates' Court in Sri Lanka for possessing 4lb of hashish (Vijitha Yapa writes).
 Michael Taylor, aged 39, was arrested at the Colombo international airport, Katunayake, on April 4 when he was about to board an aircraft for Europe.
 This is the toughest sentence passed by a Sri Lankan court on a foreigner for possessing drugs.
 Glen Andrew Scott, aged 22, an Australian, was sentenced to four years' rigorous imprisonment by the Negombo magistrate for possessing 7oz of heroin.

Sterilization mother jailed

Columbia, South Carolina (UPI) - A woman charged with murder in the starvation death of her three-month-old son was allowed to plead guilty to voluntary manslaughter after undergoing sterilization in return for the reduced charge.

Debra Williams, aged 26, was jailed for the maximum 30 years for voluntary manslaughter. Her husband, James Williams, is awaiting trial on the murder charge.

More talks on Hong Kong

London - Four days of talks began yesterday to review progress in implementing the Anglo-Chinese Declaration on the future of Hong Kong, which regulates the transition of Hong Kong from British to Chinese sovereignty after 1997 (Rodney Cowton writes).

It is the fourth series of meetings of the Sino-British Joint Liaison Group, which rotates its meetings between Peking, Hong Kong and London.

Titanic plaque

Woods Hole, Massachusetts (Reuter) - A small bronze plaque honouring the 1,513 people who perished when the Titanic sank 74 years ago, was placed yesterday on the ship's stern.

Chess winner

Bienne, Switzerland (AP) - Viktor Korchnoi, the former Soviet grandmaster now playing for Switzerland, bounced back from an opening loss to defeat Swiss teammate Werner Hug in the second round of the Bienne International Chess Tournament.

Bus tragedy

Zutphen, Netherlands (Reuter) - Two handicapped people were killed together with a female helper and the female driver of a minibus which collided with a train on a level crossing near this eastern Dutch town yesterday.

Atom chief



The Kremlin has named Mr Nikolai Lukonin (above) head of the newly-created Soviet Ministry of Atomic Power Engineering. He has for the past three years been in charge of a giant nuclear plant in Lithuania which will soon have two Chernobyl-type reactors in operation.

Harriman ill

New York (AP) - Mr W Averell Harriman, aged 94, a statesman who played a major role in forming US foreign policy under five presidents and worked closely with Sir Winston Churchill during the Second World War, is seriously ill, the New York Daily News reported yesterday.

Dearer bread

Belgrade (Reuter) - The Yugoslav Government has allowed a 50 per cent rise in the price of bread effective immediately, the official news agency Tanjug said.

Colonel dies

Manila (Reuter) - Colonel Tirso Gador, who played a part in the revolt that toppled President Ferdinand Marcos, was drowned when his parachute was blown into Manila Bay after he jumped from an Air Force helicopter.

Cold comfort

Tehran (Reuter) - Iran has sent equipment to provide 40 tonnes of ice daily for its troops sweltering in 122°F heat on Iraq's southern Faw peninsula. Tehran Radio reported.

Americans tight-lipped after first meeting with Russians on Salt treaty

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

Complying with directives that the occasion should not serve as a "propaganda platform", American officials were tight-lipped regarding yesterday's inaugural American-Soviet meeting on the 1979 Salt 2 treaty, to which President Reagan says the US no longer intends to be bound.

A US communiqué confined itself to saying that Washington's agreement to convene a special session on the issue "stands in contrast to the position taken by the Soviet Union in 1983 when the US asked for a special session to discuss compliance matters relating to the Salt 2 Treaty.

"The Soviet Union denied that request," the communiqué added. "However, the US has agreed to this session as a sign of our desire that the Soviet Union join us in estab-

lishing an interim framework of truly mutual restraint."

Both yesterday morning and again in the afternoon, the US delegation, led by General Richard Ellis, a former chief of the country's strategic air command, met the Soviet team, headed by General Vladimir Medvedev, at the US diplomatic mission "to clear the air".

The talks, requested by Moscow, were held within the context of the Standing Consultative Commission - the joint US-Soviet body set up in 1972 to monitor compliance with existing arms control agreements, and, it was then hoped, make suggestions for more.

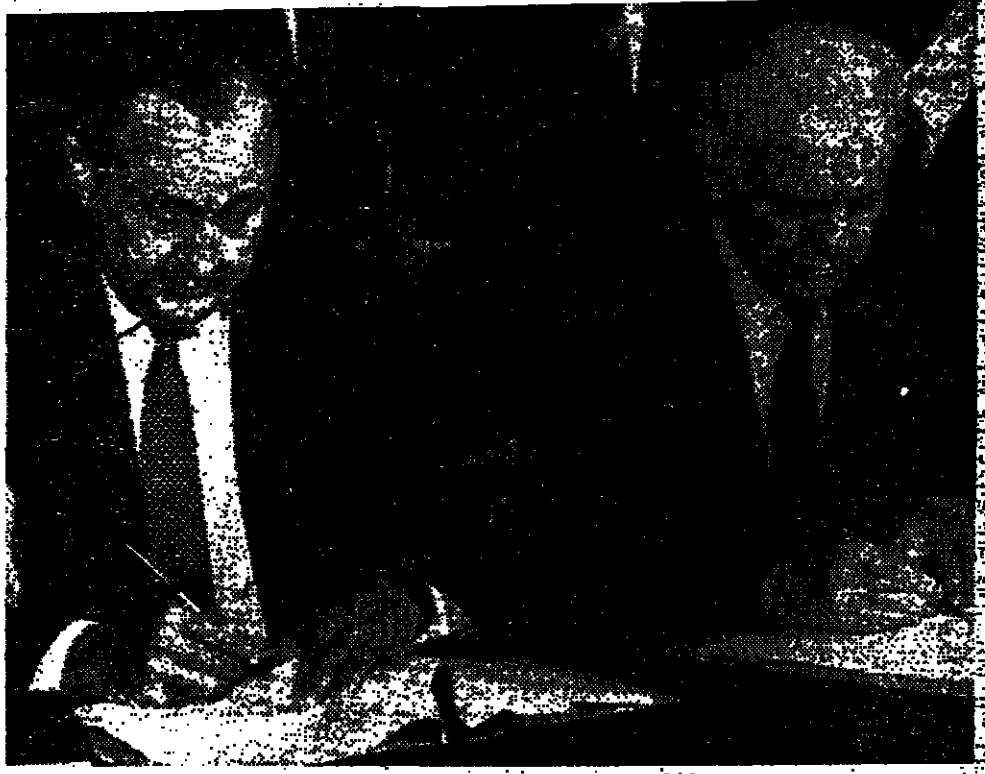
A concurrent development in the 40-nation United Nations disarmament conference concerns the proposed global network of seismological measuring stations to differentiate between natural underground

disturbances and subterranean nuclear tests.

After prolonged fence-sitting the Soviet Union has now declared itself willing to participate in the international effort directed to this concept, which is entirely compatible with its current endeavour to secure a comprehensive ban on testing.

Mr Richard Butler, the Australian delegate, who visited Moscow last week, is urging the conference to reach consensus on recommending governments to proceed with the required network forthwith.

He pointed out that with 100 national seismic stations already in existence, the essential requirement was to reinforce the communications network for transmission of data, thereby creating a global seismological verification system for the day when prohibition on testing is agreed.



Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister (left), and Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, his Soviet counterpart, signing an agreement on scientific co-operation.

'Can do' conquers Soviet doctors

New York (AP) - The Russians who worked with American doctors treating the Chernobyl victims learned something about the American "Can do" tradition, the US physician Dr Robert Gale said.

"In time we got the Russians to think like American businessmen. We said 'Nothing is impossible,'" Dr Gale said in an interview in Life magazine.

When the Americans needed an electrical socket changed to accommodate a centrifuge, 10 Soviet technicians examined the outlet for half an hour then pronounced the task impossible.

"We said 'Gotta have it. That's it.' And I have to hand it to them: they rewired the room," Dr Gale said.

from abroad did not arrive, the doctors went to Chernobyl airport and used crows to open crates until they found what they wanted.

Dr Gale said he learnt from having to grapple with the awesome challenge of treating "the largest group ever exposed to a reactor accident". It was a "battlefield situation", in which doctors had to decide quickly who could be saved.

But Soviet and American doctors had worked well together, and there was little language problem. He had told Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the Soviet leader, that the accident and the tremendous medical response it demanded "should put to rest any notion that we could respond effectively to a nuclear accident of a greater magnitude".

Genscher plea on missiles

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, wound up a three-day visit to Moscow yesterday with a call for the Soviet Union and the United States to seek interim accord on medium-range and strategic missiles if full-scale agreement proved impossible.

After meetings that included three hours of talks with Mr Gorbachov, the Soviet leader, Herr Genscher said West Germany felt that both superpowers had an interest in reaching an interim accord.

"A policy of everything or nothing would be wrong," he said. It would be better to have a partial solution.

New Jersey racecourse scents trouble

Horses' efforts go to waste

From Paul Valley, New York

The bottom has fallen out of the domestic mushroom market and dropped the racetrack managers of New Jersey into a heap of trouble.

The problem is one of how to dispose of the daily supplies of horse manure produced inexorably by the thousands of horses permanently stabled at the racecourses.

Until recently the dung was a supply of ready cash. They sold it to the mushroom growers who came willingly with lorries to cart the stuff away to their farms in the limestone caverns of neighbouring Pennsylvania. Five years ago Meadowlands Race-track alone annually made about \$250,000 (£167,000) from the cash sale.

But then cheaper mushrooms began to be imported from China and Taiwan and local growers began to go bankrupt and close their operations.

Now the racecourse owners are having to pay the few remaining growers to take the manure away. Last year it cost Meadowlands \$150,000 for the trouble.

Over the next 12 months the track's financial expert predicts the cost will double as the industry continues to decline.

A visit to Meadowlands gives some idea of the scale of the problem. The stadium currently houses 1,700 horses. Steaming dung is collected daily by stable boys and gathered into piles 10 or 12ft high stired judiciously along the back stretch of the course.

But though it may be the ideal medium for the cultivation of mushrooms it is not much use for anything else. The digestive tracts of cows

kill weed seeds in whatever fodder they eat, but the less ruminant systems of horses do not. To turn horse dung into a viable soil conditioner it needs to be composted for at least a year.

The difficulty is that Meadowlands alone produces five lorryloads of manure every week. The size of the 12 month compost heap Meadowlands would require does not bear thinking about.

The answer to the problem may lie in Saratoga. In recent years the Saratoga Raceway in New York State has been operating a conversion plant which turns manure into fertilizer.

Now Meadowlands has decided to spend \$20,000 on a marketing feasibility study for

a similar plant of its own. "If things carry on with the mushroom growers as they are, pretty soon there won't even be anyone to come and take it away no matter how much we paid them. To dispose of it all as trash would cost a fortune," said Paul Wolcott, a spokesman for the track.

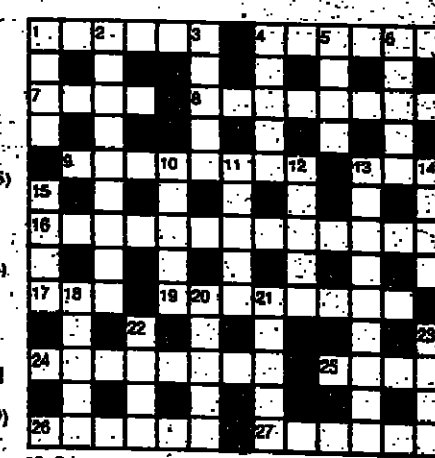
The Saratoga track, which used to pay \$100,000 a year for dung disposal now produces an annual income of \$300,000 from its "Saratoga Organic". Its plant accelerates the natural process of decomposition by raising the ambient temperature to 150°F and then blowing oxygen through the manure.

"It turns dung to gold," said Mr Wolcott.

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1009

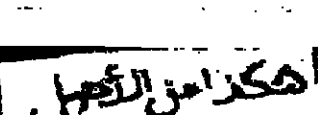
- ACROSS
 1 Merry (6)
 4 Rebellious (6)
 7 Hoarsey wine (4)
 8 Multiple (8)
 9 Warship officers quarters (8)
 13 Electric fish (3)
 16 Wind measure (8,5)
 17 Curve (3)
 19 Hold back (8)
 24 Malted wine (3)
 25 Sicilian volcano (4)
 26 Shiny (6)
 27 Frank (6)

- DOWN
 1 Doorframe vertical (4)
 2 Excursion coach (9)
 3 Object (5)
 4 House-housy (5)
 5 Elevator (4)
 6 Divide in two (5)
 10 Postponed (5)
 11 Fragrant iris (5)
 12 Slangy man (5)
 13 Thin (9)
 14 Welsh emblem (4)
 15 Syrian bishop (4)
 18 Monarch (5)



- SOLUTION TO NO 1008
 ACROSS: 1 Bedouin 5 Pay 8 Cudge 9 Tactile 11 Newcomer 13 Loss 15 Circumference 17 Aces 18 Unversed 21 Mundane 22 Yobbo 23 Bote 24 Sausage
 DOWN: 2 Endow 3 AIC 4 Butterfingers 5 Pace 6 Tricorne 7 Impassioned 10 Eisoddfod 12 Ovum 14 Fize 16 Retinue 19 Saboteur 20

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Royal Wedding



Love on a wing and a smile

The marriage of Prince Andrew to Sarah Ferguson today seals the partnership between two young people whose effervescent joy has touched millions of hearts

Beneath her tumbling copper mane, Sarah Ferguson has a pair of bright blue-grey eyes which she employs to great effect. When, in the company of a visitor, Prince Andrew's conversation charges off down the byways of naval life and into the dense thickets of powered flight, she has a habit of staring directly at the third party, slipping behind a puckish grin and rolling her hazel eyeballs to the ceiling like the reels of a one-armed bandit.

Her face is open, lively, knowing, mischievous and always pointed at the world around her, unlike that of the Princess of Wales who, on public view during her engagement, often appeared transfixed by the toes of her boots.

It is a face full of self-assurance, confident without being overweening and rarely without a laugh lurking between the ears. When she and her partner laugh in unison, which they do a lot, the watching world is near-blinded by shimmering banks of perfect teeth, like a pair of Steinway concert grands with their keyboards open.

Her former headmistress at the exclusive and expensive Hurst Lodge girls' boarding school at Summingdale, Mrs Celia Merrick, has recalled: "If there was any fun Sarah would be in the midst of it. From being a very small girl she always had charm, humour and a sense of fun. She had a very sunny disposition: enormously cheerful, bubbly and fun-loving. But she was not a superficial girl and had a stubborn streak. I should think she will suit the young prince very well: she is a strong, enough character to keep him in order".

Sarah's self-confidence and openness are qualities learned from an early age and not without a measure of pain in her fourteenth year when her mother departed for Argentina. Her family background is landed gentry rather than aristocracy, with generations of distinguished service in the Cavalry; her great-grandfather died on active service with the Royal Horse Guards in 1896, taming the Ashanti on the Gold Coast and every generation since, down to her father, has held a commission in the Life Guards.

It is a family of old money, but not of much. Several generations ago the Fergusons were landowners, in a mildly grand sort of way, at Polebrook Hall in Northamptonshire, but today the family spread is 876 prime arable acres of Hampshire.

From her earliest years Sarah travelled on her father's coat tails through the upper reaches of English social life, via his profes-

sional career of high-flying military ceremonial and his abiding passion for polo. It was a training that gave her the first-division social graces and the self-assurance to regard her purpose as life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

She was never an academic but few of her background are. She managed six O-levels — in art, English language, English literature, spoken English, French and biology — but her principal school achievement, apart from mere survival against a disintegrating family background, now happily rebuilt, was to be made joint head girl with the daughter of the television comedian Ted Rogers. She dived naked at midnight into the swimming pool on her last day at school but then so did everyone at Hurst Lodge.

Her assessment card at the South Kensington secretarial school she subsequently attended was prescient in its judgement: "Bright, bouncy redhead. A bit slapdash, but has initiative and personality which she will use to her advantage when she gets older, and accepts responsibility happily".

Soon after her engagement was made public, she took a bit-part in the Queen's 60th birthday celebrations, accepting daffodils from schoolchildren in the Buckingham Palace forecourt. The ease with which she slipped into the part was immediately apparent as was the unruffled cool with which she handled the press gang that hounded her in the days before Fleet Street's suspicions were confirmed.

Prince Andrew, by comparison, is something of an academic, having gained three A-levels at Gordonstoun, but there was never any possibility that he would go on to university like his brothers. From the age of 13 Andrew knew that he was more of a hairy-chester than a swot and he also knew that his future lay in flying helicopters. The RAF he dismissed as too mundane, the Army as too politically risky — much of their chopper flying is in South Armagh — so it had to be the Navy.

Andrew is nothing if not his father's son: he is even named after the Duke of Edinburgh's father, Prince Andrew of Greece. He is a world removed from the thoughtful and introverted Charles and exudes a confidence which, until the Falklands war and the wise counsel of his mother filed down the sharper corners, had a tendency to manifest itself



A shared life: engrossed in the fun and freedom of each other's company, a pleasure that underlies even the grandest wedding

as arrogance and the kind of behaviour which some can get away with as high spirits and for which others suffer in the name of boorishness.

The Falklands campaign was the beginning of the making of Andrew and it changed him markedly. Shipmates relate that on one occasion in those slightly unreal days when the task force was sailing south, Andrew burst into a crowded cafeteria close to the flight deck of HMS Invincible, whipped out his service revolver and pointed it at the assembled and astonished company. By the time the trigger had made its harmless click the entire company had hit the deck.

Less than a month later he was a considerably sobered man. "I was airborne when the Atlantic Conveyor was hit. We saw the odd 4.5 inch shell come pretty close to us and I saw Invincible fire her missiles. Normally I would say it looked very spectacular but from where I was it was very frightening. I think the moment really

sticks in my mind. It was horrific and terrible and something I will never forget. It was probably my most frightening moment of the war".

He later learned an even more chilling fact: three times during the heat of battle, the British radar-guided Sea Wolf missile batteries had locked on to his helicopter, mistaking it for Argentinian hardware. Who could blame him, when the war was over, for seeking rest and relaxation on a Caribbean island with a woman who had once appeared, without her clothes, in a distinctly unerotic film?

Yet for all his derring-do, his parade of well-publicized amorous adventures, and his obvious enjoyment of the close camaraderie of the naval wardrobe, there appears always to have been a streak of isolation, even loneliness in him. His only real home has been a grand but faintly impersonal suite of rooms in Buckingham

Palace and his published collection of photographs, which he describes as autobiographical, have the feeling of a man peeping through the Palace curtains in curiosity and longing at a wider world outside.

So what future can be divined for this outwardly fun-loving pair, forever sentenced to a life in the public eye?

The new Princess Andrew will begin married life as a service wife and will become well-acquainted with the inside of married quarters, as did Princess Anne during her first wedded years when Captain Phillips was still instructing at Sandhurst. After the honeymoon Prince Andrew goes on a training course at Yeovilton, then on to an instructor's posting at Portland naval helicopter base in Dorset.

He signed on for twelve years and will undoubtedly remain in the service at least until 1992. Beyond that, his career is less certain; by that time he would be in line for quite senior promotion

and there is a potential source of embarrassment in the Queen's son competing for high rank with other highly-qualified career officers.

Sarah will do her best to continue working, at least for the time being, against the pressures on her to give it up. For what else is a naval officer's wife to do all day if she is not to surrender totally to the corrosive effects of the service ladies' social round?

Then a home must be found for them. Although there are always the quarters at Buckingham Palace, it never did any young bride much good to start married life under the roof of her in-laws. Some properties have been looked at in the area already popular with the family and which local estate agents now describe as the "Royal South Coiswolds". It will be the Queen's wedding present to them.

They will not be unduly horsey. Sarah is competent in the saddle but has always pulled up short of obsession. Andrew has no great

love of the beasts; they used to give him dreadful hay fever. Their main function in life is to be themselves, royals acting out a public life which will move to a much higher profile when Prince Andrew leaves the Navy. Andrew, at present, has a modest portfolio of only 10 patronages, from the British Schools Exploring Society through the Badminton Association of England and a school for problem children in Co. Durham to a police convalescent home in Harrogate.

Sarah will soon have her own clutch and she will be a credit to "the firm" in the way that she conducts her role of a Royal Presence. She is warm, open, caring, natural and more or less born a commoner, so that her audience will readily relate to her.

Once upon a time Prince Andrew, as a son of the monarch, would have been despatched as Governor-General of one of the larger segments of the White Commonwealth. That is no longer the case. Australians, for example, more or less insist that the monarch's representative in Canberra is one of them.

They will be found another role on the royal stage: assuming that Andrew leaves the Navy at the end of his 12-year commission, the Queen will be 66 and no doubt glad of her family to take from her some of the burden of public appearances. They will need to earn a living, because not only is a £50,000 Civil List allowance modest to maintain a regal lifestyle, it is supposed to be used only for official business.

They will have an estate in the country and will have to work like any other commercial farmer to make it pay. Sarah has already the look of a woman who could mature into a formidable Lady of the Shires. They will have children. And Andrew will miss naval life, just as his father did when official duties forced him to give it up.

When he starts reminiscing about his days on Invincible, his wife's eyes will roll up again, the puckish grin will return and she will probably order him to go off and play with his boats in the bath.

Alan Hamilton



- Page 10 The Procession
- Page 11 The route
- Page 12 Marriage Service; Inside the abbey

Two very separate lives, glimpsed on the abbey road



The chubbier of the two, then and now. The Princes Andrew and Edward enjoyed a particularly close relationship with their mother, by then released from the burden of her father's last illness and the difficult early years of her reign



The then Mrs Susan Ferguson with her daughters in the Sixties. Not even in her wildest childhood dreams could the sparkling-eyed Sarah, aged nine, left, with her sister Jane, have dreamt that one day she would marry a prince



An eight-year old precocious cub-Scout is demonstrating that he never learned the meaning of the word "shy"



A nine-year old country girl learning the skills of the saddle, but pulling up short of equestrian obsession



Flowering into womanhood, a blooming Sarah displays an easy pose at her sister's wedding ten years ago



A 13-year-old prince at Badminton Horse Trials reflecting, perhaps, that animals give him hay fever



Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. The pose is as floppy as the hat, the face open, carefree, fresh and young. Sarah Ferguson at the age of 26 is worldly, self-assured, relaxed and looks as if she knows that something pretty terrific is about to happen to her. The face, as always, reflects not only her own warmth but also that of the sun

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Royal Wedding

Lining up for a grand pageant

Britain's great State occasions have one thing in common: the presence of horses and carriages. Today's represents both grand tradition and modern efficiency, pomp and precision manifested in immaculate splendour. Alan Hamilton reports

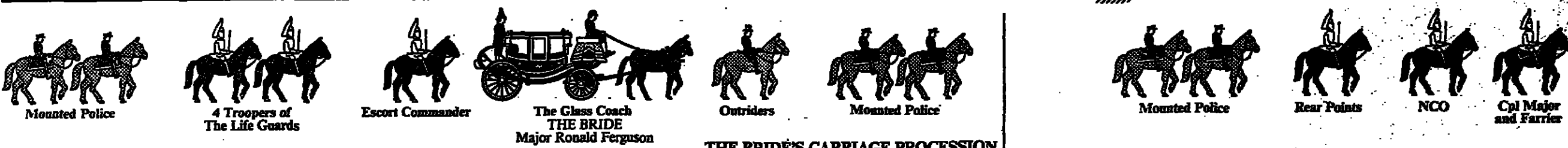
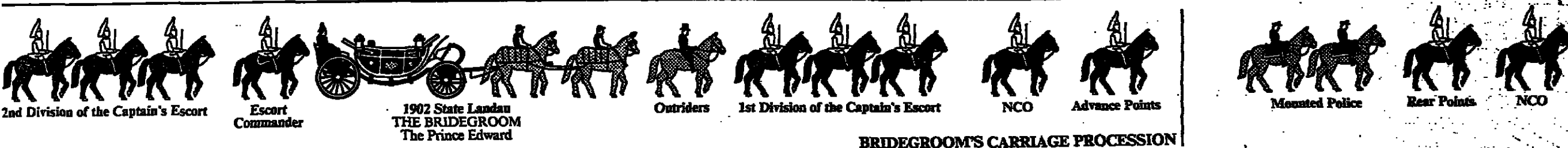
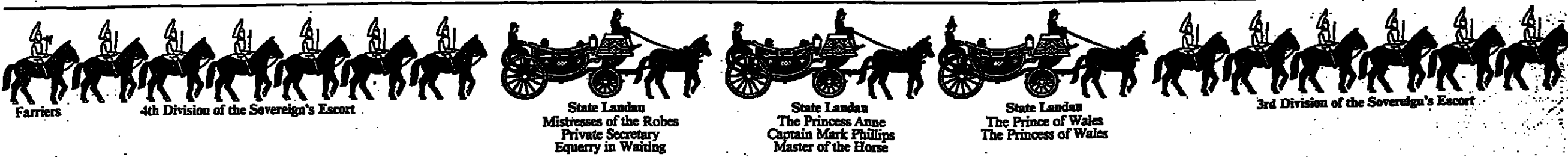


Illustration by Geoffrey Sims

Rise 'n' shine for a day in the saddle

Reveille was early today at Hyde Park Barracks. Troopers laid on elbow grease, spit and polish that would bring a sparkle to the eye of any senior NCO. The day of the horse soldier was under way.

Five o'clock in the morning, and the slumbering peace of Hyde Park Barracks is broken only by the fiftieth snore of a Life Guards trooper, the pawing of hoof on concrete and the occasional stultent hrrmmph from the stalls where 200-impeccably groomed black horses await the day with blank patience.

At 5.30 the fleeting dreams of man and beast are shattered by a trumpet of the Blues and Royals band piercing the capital's early air. Reveille is half an hour early: there is a big job on today.

Troopers tumble from their beds in their well-appointed tower-block quarters and stumble down to the stables for the day's first brew-up

before the chore of mucking out. A whisper of soothing words in the ears of their mounts establishes which horses are calm, which excitable. Those not in the right frame of mind are led out, clad only in blanket and surcingle, for half an hour of brisk exercise in the riding school: nothing like physical exertion to calm the nerves.

By 6.45 the troopers, now fully breakfasted, are back in the stables to begin the serious task of grooming, on which for a day like today they will spend a good hour and a half. No human guest at today's wedding will be better turned out than the horses of the Household Cavalry.

There are to be 190 horses for today's spectacle, slightly fewer than the recent record of 207 put on parade for the Queen Mother's eightieth birthday. The Cavalry buy them, mainly from Ireland, at between three and four years of age, and they stay in service as long as they are useful. The oldest inhabitant of the stables at the Cavalry's Hyde Park barracks is the venerable 25-



Changing times, changing roles: Prince Andrew and Prince Charles en route to the latter's wedding five years ago

year-old Ringlet, but his trotting days are more or less over and he will not be called for today's parade.

Horses' names indicate the year they completed training and joined a troop; this year's graduates all begin with 'L' - Legend, Lucinda, Leopardstown. The minimum height requirement for a black horse to carry a trooper is 16 hands; greys are admitted at 15.2 hands, but they are restricted to the lighter duty of carrying

the musicians on parade duty. Grooming is conducted with a thoroughness that borders on obsession and no part of the equine body escapes attention. Endless brushing brings the coat to a mirror sheen that equals the blacking on grandmother's kitchen range; powdered chalk on the white patches rivals the most hyperbolic detergent commercial. Hooves are picked and polished, eyes and noses wiped with the care of mother to child. The night before, tails were wrapped in wet bandages: this morning they are taken off so that the hairs can be pulled to lie neatly between the buttocks.

Troopers have been blacking, whitening and brassing their own kit since the day before and buffing up the leather harness. The leather is first rubbed smooth with the edge of the polish tin lid, the Cherry Blossom is applied with the thumb and the elbow grease makes it shine like lacquer.

By 8.15, it's boots and saddles. The horses are saddled while the troopers retire to change, helping each other into their complex uniforms, which include steel cuirasses (the Household Cavalry are alone in the British Army in

still wearing armour). It is far from unknown for a trooper to get part of his kit on the wrong way round, and a man poorly turned out at inspection may well find himself on a charge.

Nine o'clock, and the long process of mounting begins. Once up, a trooper stays there, and he may be in the saddle for more than an hour before the troop moves out of barracks.

By this time, Lieutenant-Colonel Seymour Gilbert-Denham, the officer commanding the Sovereign's escort (a post once held by the bride's father), or his adjutant, Captain Rupert Lendrum, will have been on the telephone to the London Weather Centre and to the Royal Mews at Buckingham Palace. The threat of serious rain requires a decision on wet weather order; the Cavalry will be given the order "to cloak" and the Mews will roll out the covered coaches instead of the open landaus.

Then Lieutenant-Colonel Gilbert-Denham inspects his charges accompanied by his adjutant and riding master while grooms with brushes and polish stand by to attend to his dissatisfactions. When

his approval has been won, the Cavalry moves off through city streets, now busy with workaday traffic, on the 20-minute ride to Buckingham Palace.

Meanwhile, across London, a group of senior officers under the direction of Major-General Christopher Airy, commanding the Household Division and London District, have been at work since early July in a suite of offices directly behind the mounted sentries at the Whitehall entrance to Horse Guards. Their task has been to ensure clockwork precision in the day's events, both in the mounted procession and in the foot soldiers who line the route.

It is a job they know backwards, having performed it with only minor variations, for every State opening of Parliament and every State visit, including that of the President of West Germany three weeks ago.

Lining the route is an equally exact science. Palace to Westminster is a well-trodden ceremonial path, and the Army's masters of ceremony are familiar with every inch of it.

To help them, metal markers, each with its own letter, are set in the roadway of the

Mall and Whitehall. One or two have inadvertently disappeared under careless road resurfacing, but the easiest to spot is the metal stud marked 'S', two feet out from the kerb opposite the left-hand sentry box at Horse Guards.

Where one route-lining detachment ends and the next begins depends on how many men each regiment can provide. Thus, for example, the Cheshire Regiment may receive the order to commence lining 62 paces west of Point S.

The traditional route has two variations. When the Queen opens Parliament, she cuts off the Trafalgar Square corner and emerges through Horse Guards Arch; the Arch is the ancient entrance to Whitehall Palace, and the Sovereign on her way to open her Parliament must be seen to be emerging from her official residence. State visits negotiate Admiralty Arch; so, too, will Prince Andrew as a nod to his own profession.

There is a strict lining hierarchy. In the Mall nearest the Palace it is always the Sovereign's own personal guard, the Foot Guards. Which Guards depends on which are available: today it will be the Scots and Irish Guards, both of which have battalions currently stationed in the UK.

Thereafter the route is lined by the services in ascending order of seniority. From Admiralty Arch to halfway down Whitehall it is the junior service, the RAF. Then the Army, represented today by the Cheshires, who happen to be stationed at present in the London area. Finally, close to the Abbey, the senior service, the Navy and Royal Marines, ending up nearest the Abbey door with ratings from the ships on which Prince Andrew has served.

There was a full rehearsal last Thursday, in the small hours before London was awake, but still nothing is left to chance. An hour before the

procession begins, the markers for each lining half-company will march to their allotted positions, accompanied by a drill warrant-officer with his pace stick. They like, they say, to get things accurate to within the width of a pair of feet.

The crowds, who have a propensity to cheer anything that passes, even a Westminster Council dustcart, as they wait for the star turns to appear, will have a chance to give throat to Major-General Airy as he rides the route with two fellow-officers to inspect the lining parties shortly before the real action begins.

They can cheer him again on his return, just before bride and groom pass by en route to the wedding breakfast. And then they're off, to the beat of jangling harness and of military bands spaced along the route. Now it's all a question of getting to the church on time - exactly on time.

Troopers cannot peep at their watches under those vast white gauntlets, and an upwards glance at Big Ben is only a slight help. Foot soldiers will march reliably at 116 paces to the minute, but the walking pace of a horse is not quite so precise. Again, it's all a question of practice and experience. To slow or speed up the cavalcade, the officer in charge of each escort signals with his sword.

If they get it right, as they almost always do, Queen, bride and groom will each be delivered in their separate processions to the Abbey's west door to the minute, as prescribed in the carefully-laid plans. If they don't, the crowds will be too enthralled by the polished rumps of Lucinda, Leopardstown and the rest to notice, but Lieutenant-Colonel Gilbert-Denham will have a few choice words to say back at barracks. And Ringlet will be quite relieved that he has the day off.

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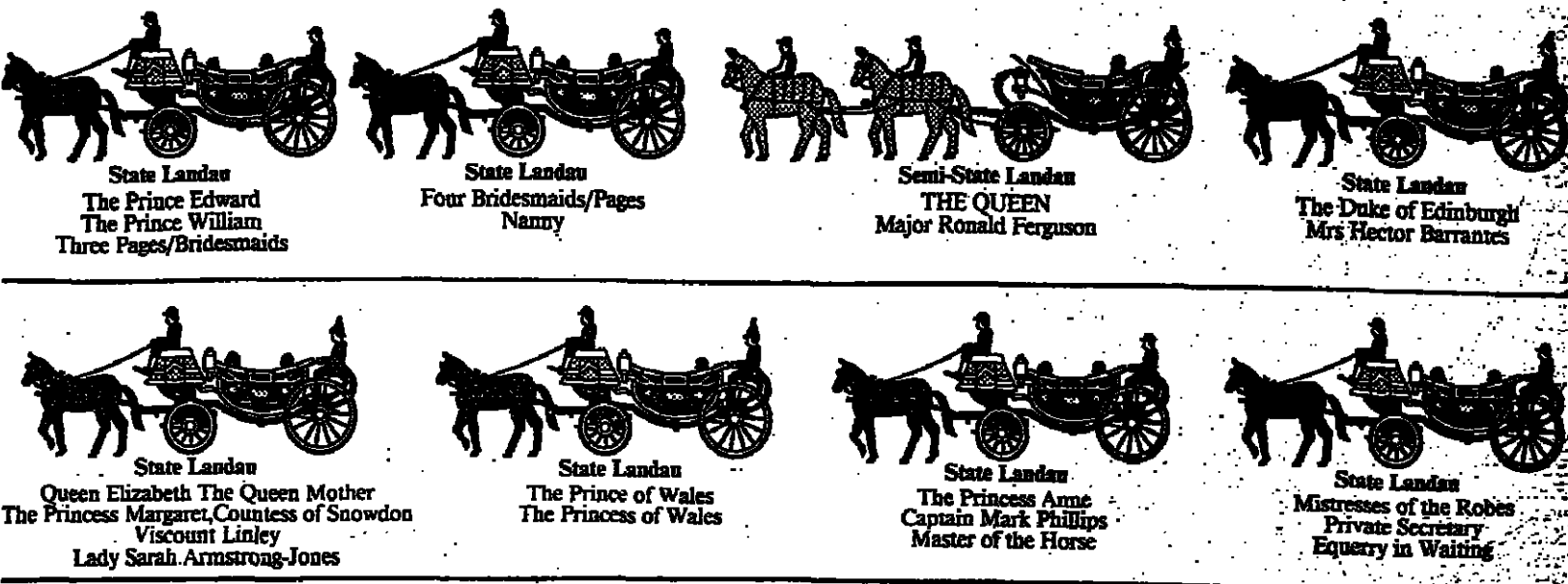
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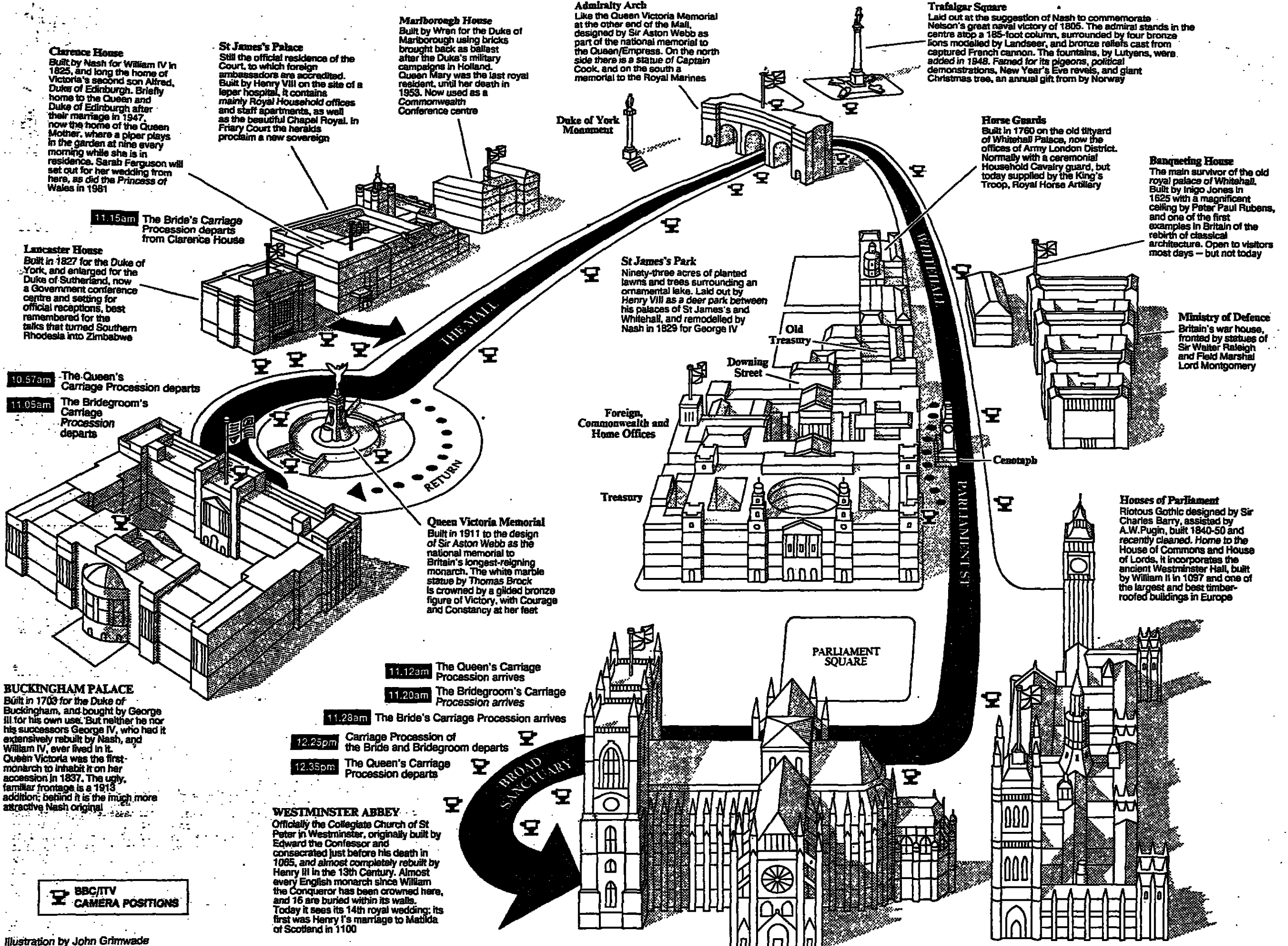


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State Landau Four Bridesmaids/Pages Nanny
Semi-State Landau THE QUEEN Major Ronald Ferguson
State Landau The Duke of Edinburgh Mrs Hector Barrantes
State Landau Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon Viscount Linley Lady Sarah Armstrong-Jones
State Landau The Prince of Wales The Princess of Wales
State Landau The Princess Anne Captain Mark Phillips Master of the Horse
State Landau Mistresses of the Robes Private Secretary Equerry in Waiting

مكتبة من الأخبار

Royal Wedding

... and where to watch it pass



A Dimbleby returns to challenge the independent knight

The battle for television audiences reaches a peak today. The BBC has David Dimbleby in the chair while ITV fields the formidable Sir Alastair Burnet and Ronald Allison.

Constant feature of big royal occasions is that the BBC pulls in more viewers than the opposition. When Prince Charles stood in St Paul's Cathedral about to marry Lady Diana Spencer five years ago, 24.8 million people were watching on BBC and 14.4 million on ITV.

It is a disparity not easily explained, since on non-royal extravaganzas like Budgets and General Elections, ITV more than holds its own. The rough and ready excuse is that potential ITV viewers are alienated by the thought of commercial breaks even though ITV never runs commercials during royal occasions and will not be doing so today.

The more valid argument is that the BBC has been at it longer and has established an authority which the comparatively upstart opposition has found difficult to shake. For many years that authority was personified in the ample figure of the late Richard Dimbleby.

Dimbleby III - Coronation postponed - went the joke but for many millions, a Coronation or a royal wedding without that huge and reassuring presence would have been unthinkable. After his death his mantle was assumed by the Scottish actor, Tom Fleming, whose hushed, reverential tones perfectly echoed the Dimbleby style.

This time, though, there has been a minor revolution in BBC thinking and out goes Fleming. The BBC view is that while the nuptials of a future King and Queen needed to be treated with appropriate solemnity, the wedding of a jolly Prince, several removes from

the succession, calls for more informal coverage.

The irony is that in order to achieve this, the stiff and decorous Fleming has been replaced by another Dimbleby. In search of his new relaxed style, the Beeb decided that its principal royal wedding commentator this time would be a presenter, to be seen as well as heard. David Dimbleby was felt to be more suitable for this role than the "off-vision" Fleming.

For the wedding of Prince Charles and Lady Diana, Fleming gave his commentary from high up in St Paul's Cathedral. Dimbleby will be in the thick of things, in a glass-walled temporary studio at the West Door of Westminster Abbey. His chair will move on rails so that at one moment he can talk to camera, at another provide the voice-over to whatever picture is being selected from the bank of monitors in front of him.

David Dimbleby, as the son of the great Richard, may have had a head start to his broadcasting career but he has been obliged to forge his own style.

At times he may have tried too hard. He was in trouble some years back when he attempted a less than obsequious commentary for the visit to Britain of President Richard Nixon, and again when he tried to press Harold Wilson over how much the former PM had been paid for his memoirs. But after the requisite wrist-slapping all was eventually forgiven and the Dimbleby succession is now proudly established. It is David's first big royal assignment.

ITV, on the other hand, is fielding the same team as for Charles and Diana. The double act of Sir Alastair Burnet and Ronald Allison may not have won the battle of the ratings but it was well received by the critics. Barrie Sales, executive producer of the ITV

Television and radio is providing full live coverage of the wedding

BBC 1

6.15am Breakfast Time: Introduced by Frank Bough and Sally Magnusson. The programme includes A Wedding Fit for a Prince (6.30), a behind-the-scenes look at the style of the ceremony. So on to be Princess (7.08), a profile of Sarah Ferguson by her parents, friends and teachers. The Abbey Awakes (7.30), last-minute preparations. The Bachelor Prince (8.10), profile of Prince Andrew by his friends and naval colleagues. Across the Seas (8.30), HMS Brazen holds a deck party in honour of its former shipmate, with John Mountford. Dummer Delighted (9.05), celebrations in Sarah Ferguson's Hampshire village home, with Valerie Singleton and John Sopleton. Calling the Falklands (9.30), live greetings from Prince Andrew's admirers.

10.0 Westminster Abbey: the doors open, and David Dimbleby (below) from a temporary studio outside the Abbey, describes the arrival of the 1,800 guests, including foreign royalty, political figures and personalities from show business.

10.45 Carriage Procession: Selina Scott at Buckingham Palace sees the carriages and escorts leave for the Abbey. Fashion expert Sophie Hicks looks at the dresses of the bride and attendants.

11.30 The Marriage Service and the return to Buckingham

Palace described by David Dimbleby, Dimbleby and Selina Scott talk to guests about the ceremony and Mike Smith joins the crowds in the Mall. Ends 1.30pm.

3.30pm Honeymoon Departure described by Dimbleby. Ends 4.22.

9.30 A Day to Remember: recorded highlights. Ends 10.30.

ITV

6.15am TV-am Royal Wedding Special: introduced by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen. Anne Lauchers reports from Dummer and studio guests include Alastair Burnet and Ronald Allison, the principal ITV commentators for the day. Ralph Wykes-Sneyd, Prince Andrew's former commanding officer in the Falklands; Drusilla Beyfus, fashion editor of Vogue; Guy Branford; and royal experts Godfrey Talbot, Nigel Dempster and Ingrid Seward.

9.25 The Royal Wedding: Martyn Lewis describes the scene at Buckingham Palace, Pamela Armstrong at Clarence House and Carol Barnes at Trafalgar Square. Alastair Stewart offers a bird's eye view from the Goodyear airship 1,000ft above London. Alastair Burnet (below) and

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DAY

10.50am Bridesmaids and pages leave Clarence House for Westminster Abbey
10.57 The Queen and other members of the Royal Family leave Buckingham Palace
11.05 Prince Andrew, accompanied by Prince Edward, leaves Buckingham Palace
11.15 Miss Sarah Ferguson and her father, Major Ronald Ferguson, leave Clarence House
11.20 Prince Andrew arrives at Westminster Abbey
11.28 Miss Ferguson arrives at the Abbey
11.30 Start of the Marriage Service, conducted by the Archbishop of Canterbury
12.25pm The Bride and Groom leave the Abbey for Buckingham Palace
1.15 The Bride and Groom appear on the balcony of Buckingham Palace
4.0 The Bride and Groom drive by Buckingham Palace Road, Piccadilly Road and Royal Hospital Road to the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, before starting their honeymoon

RADIO 4

6.30am Today: presented by Peter Hobday, with Sue McGregor (below) at Westminster

Abbey: John Timpon outside Buckingham Palace and Brian Redhead travelling the route. Ends at 9am.

10.30 The Royal Wedding: John Dunn sets the scene and the commentators are Brian Johnston (below) at the Victoria

RADIO 2

9.30am The Royal Wedding: John Dunn introduces favourite records chosen by Prince Andrew and Miss Sarah Ferguson. From 10.30, Radio 2 joins with Radio 4.

Prepare yourself for the Royal Wedding.

Creamy Savoury Flan.

With the wedding of the year nearly here, you'll want to make sure you miss none of it.

So here's a simple dish you can prepare beforehand to enjoy during the celebrations later.

Line a 20cm (8") flan dish with 225g (8oz) of short crust pastry.

Then fill with your favourite savoury filling.

Beat together 2 eggs with 150ml (4 1/2) Double Cream, season well and pour over the flan for that special touch.

Decorate with sliced tomato and bake at 200°C (400°F), mark 6 for 30-35 minutes. If you're having a party this serves 4 to 6 friends.

Appetising hot or cold, with salad or as part of a buffet. It's the perfect way to see the happy couple on their way. Congratulations all round.

Get fresh with the cream.

Memorial: Vicki Gabereau, with Suzy Menkes, fashion editor of The Times, outside Clarence House; John Hosken in Trafalgar Square; Reon Murrin in Whitehall; Sue McGregor outside the Abbey and Peter Jones inside. Ends 1pm.

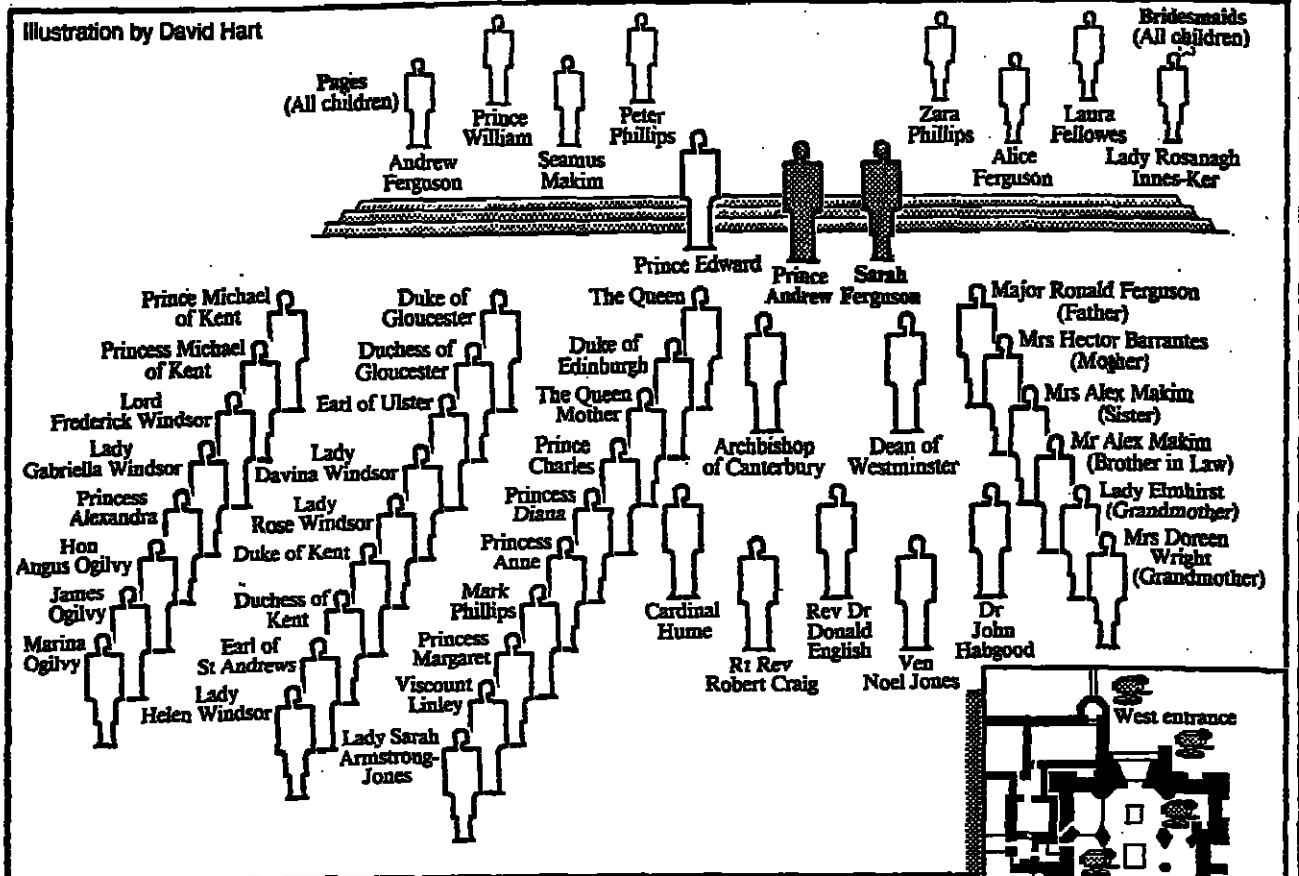
Royal Wedding

Marriage

OF THE PRINCE ANDREW with MISS SARAH FERGUSON

in Westminster Abbey on Wednesday, 23 July, 1986

ORDER OF SERVICE



Who's who in the abbey

● An ecumenical flavour for the officiating clergy and a broad international touch among the singers will be evident as the wedding service unfolds in the abbey today.

Dr Robert Runcie, Archbishop of Canterbury and senior clergyman to the 27 million Britons baptised in the Anglican faith. Aged 64, and a wartime tank commander in the Scots Guards, Dr Runcie was Bishop of St Albans, and a part-time pig farmer, before succeeding Dr Donald Coggan as the next most important person in the Church of England after its head, Queen Elizabeth II. This is Dr Runcie's second royal wedding; he married the Prince and Princess of Wales in St Paul's in 1981 and he will perform the marriage of Prince Andrew and Miss Ferguson. Regarded as a wet by the Prime Minister for his conciliatory address at the post-Falklands thanksgiving service in 1982.

Rt Rev Michael Mayne, Dean of Westminster, the Abbey's senior resident clergyman and nominal head of its administration. Aged 56, and so recently arrived from

a life stonemason, he was an Army padre at the Normandy landings, is a former vice-chancellor of the University of Zimbabwe and was recently minister of the Scots church in Jerusalem.

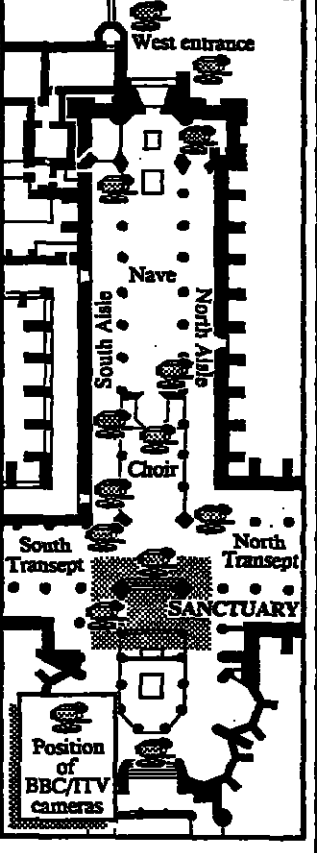
Rev Dr Donald English, Moderator of the Free Church Federal Council, adds to the ecumenical flavour by representing 3 million Methodists, Baptists and 13 other nonconformist groups. Aged 56, Dr English is a Methodist minister, teacher and administrator with an office in Central Hall directly opposite the Abbey.

Ven Noel Jones, Chaplain of the Fleet and Archdeacon for the Royal Navy, is the Senior Service's senior chaplain. He will deliver the traditional prayer of Sir Francis Drake at his first royal wedding, where the bridegroom is a serving officer with the Fleet. Aged 53, he served as an Anglican vicar in Nigeria before becoming a naval chaplain and undergoing Royal Marine Commando training.

Dr John Habgood, Archbishop of York and the Church of England's second most senior clergyman, is also participating in his first royal wedding, delivering a prayer and the blessing on the couple at the end of the service. Aged 59, he was promoted from Bishop of Durham in 1983. His presence with Dr Runcie indicates that, despite ecumenical representation, this is essentially an Anglican service.

Arlene Auger, Los Angeles-born soprano, daughter of a British mother and a French Canadian father, who will sing Mozart's anthem *Exultate Jubilate* during the signing of the registers. She made her debut in *The Magic Flute* at Vienna in 1967 and was first seen in Britain last year.

Felicity Lott, 39-year old English soprano known in professional musical circles as "Floit", who will sing Mozart's anthem *Laudate Dominum* during the signing of the registers. Regarded as one of our premier romantic soprano leads, she performed a well-received *Arabesque* at Glyndebourne last year and recently sang at Covent Garden in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. After the wedding she will dash back to Glyndebourne, where she is currently appearing in Don Giovanni.



Scene from above: how the principals line up, top, and the lay-out of the abbey

MUSIC ON ENTRANCE
Fanfare
Imperial March (Organ) *Edward Elgar*

HYMN
Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation;
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation:
all ye who hear,
now to his temple draw near,
joining in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
shieldeth thee gently from harm, or when fainting sustaineth:
hast thou not seen
how thy heart's wishes have been
granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;
surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend thee:
ponder anew
what the Almighty can do,
if to the end he befrieth thee.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
let the Amen
sound from his people again:
gladly for ay we adore him.

THE FORM OF SOLEMNIZATION OF MATRIMONY

At the day and time appointed for solemnization of Matrimony, the persons to be married shall come into the body of the Church with their friends and neighbours; and there standing together, the Man on the right hand and the Woman on the left, THE DEAN shall say:

Dear beloved, we are gathered here in the sight of God and in the face of this congregation, to join together this man and this woman in Holy Matrimony; which is an honourable estate, instituted of God himself, signifying unto us the mystical union that is between Christ and his Church; which holy estate Christ adorned and beautified with his presence, and first miracle that we wrought, in Cana of Galilee, and is commended in Holy Writ to be honoured among all men; and therefore is not by any to be enterprized, nor taken in hand, unadvisedly, lightly, or wantonly; but reverently, discretely, soberly, and in the fear of God, duly considering the causes for which Matrimony was ordained.

First. It was ordained for the increase of mankind according to the will of God, and that children might be brought up in the fear and nurture of the Lord, and to the praise of his holy name.

Secondly. It was ordained in order that the natural instincts and affections, implanted by God, should be hallowed and directed aright; that those who are called of God to this holy estate, should continue therein in pureness of living.

Thirdly. It was ordained for the mutual society, help, and comfort, that the one ought to have of the other, both in prosperity and adversity.

Into which holy estate these two persons present come now to be joined.

Therefore if any man can shew any just cause, why they may not lawfully be joined together, let him now speak, or else hereafter for ever hold his peace.

Then, speaking unto the persons that shall be married, THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY shall say:

I require and charge you both, as ye will answer at the dreadful day of judgment when the secrets of all hearts shall be disclosed, that if either of you know any impediment, why ye may not be lawfully joined together in Matrimony, ye do now confess it. For be ye well assured, that so many as are coupled together otherwise than God's word doth allow are not joined together by God; neither is their Matrimony lawful.

If no impediment be alleged, then shall the Archbishop say unto the Man,

ANDREW ALBERT CHRISTIAN EDWARD, wilt thou have this SARAH MARGARET to thy wedded wife, to live together after God's ordinance in the holy estate of Matrimony? Wilt thou love her, comfort her, honour, and keep her, in sickness and in health; and forsaking all other, keep thee only unto her, so long as ye both shall live?

The Man shall answer, I will

Then shall the Archbishop say unto the Woman

SARAH MARGARET, wilt thou have this Man to thy wedded husband, to live together after God's ordinance in the holy estate of Matrimony? Wilt thou obey him, love, honour, and keep him, in sickness and in health; and forsaking all other, keep thee only unto him, so long as ye both shall live?

The Woman shall answer, I will

Then shall the Archbishop say,

Who giveth this Woman to be married to this Man?

Then shall they give their troth to each other in this manner. The Archbishop receiving the Woman at her father's hands, shall cause the Man with his right hand to take the Woman by her right hand, and to say after him as follows.

I ANDREW ALBERT CHRISTIAN EDWARD take thee SARAH MARGARET to my wedded wife, to have and to hold from this day forward, for better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love, cherish, and to obey, till death us do part, according to God's holy ordinance; and thereto I plight thee my troth.

Then shall they loose their hands; and the Woman, with her right hand taking the Man by his right hand, shall likewise say after the Archbishop

I SARAH MARGARET take thee ANDREW ALBERT CHRISTIAN EDWARD to my wedded husband, to have and to hold from this day forward, for better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love, cherish, and to obey, till death us do part, according to God's holy ordinance; and thereto I give thee my troth.

Then shall they again loose their hands; and the Man shall give unto the Woman a ring, laying the same upon the book. And the Archbishop shall say a prayer for the blessing of the ring.

IN THY NAME, O LORD, we hallow and dedicate this ring, that by thy blessing he who gives it and she who wears it, keeping true faith the one to the other, may abide together in thy peace, continue together in thy favour, live together in thy love, and may finally dwell together in thine eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Then the Archbishop, taking the ring, shall deliver it unto the Man to put it upon the fourth finger of the Woman's left hand. And the Man, holding the ring there, and taught by the Archbishop, shall say,

With this ring I thee wed, with my body I thee worship, and with all my worldly goods I thee endow: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

Then the Man leaving the ring upon the fourth finger of the Woman's left hand, they shall both kneel down: THE CONGREGATION SHALL REMAIN STANDING, and the Archbishop shall say,

Let us pray.

O ETERNAL God, Creator and Preserver of all mankind, giver of all spiritual grace, the author of everlasting life: Send thy blessing upon these thy servants, this man and this woman, whom we bless in thy name; that living faithfully together, they may surely perform and keep the vow and covenant betwixt them made, whereof this ring given and received is a token and pledge; and may ever remain in perfect love and peace together, and live according to thy laws; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Then shall the Archbishop join their right hands together, and say,

Those whom God hath joined together let no man put asunder.

Then shall the Archbishop speak unto the people.

FORASMUCH as ANDREW ALBERT CHRISTIAN EDWARD and SARAH MARGARET have consented together in holy wedlock, and have witnessed the same before God and this company, and thereto have given and pledged their troth either to other, and have declared the same by giving and receiving a ring, and by joining of hands; I pronounce that they be man and wife together. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

And the Archbishop shall add this Blessing.

God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Ghost, bless, preserve, and keep you; the Lord mercifully with his favour look upon you; and so fill you with all spiritual benediction and grace, that ye may so live together in this life, that in the world to come ye may have life everlasting. Amen.

William McKie

WE wait for thy loving kindness, O God: in the midst of thy Temple: O God, according to thy Name, so is thy praise unto the world's end; thy right hand is full of righteousness. Alleluia, Alleluia.

We wait for thy loving kindness, O God; in the midst of thy Temple O Lord, send us now prosperity. Amen.

The Lesson, read by HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES Ephesians 3: 14-end (A.V.)

HYMN
Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us
o'er the world's tempestuous sea;
guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,
for we have no help but thee,
yet possessing every blessing,
if our God our Father be.

Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us:
all our weakness thou dost know;
thou didst tread this earth before us,
thou didst feel its keenest woe;
lone and dreary, faint and weary,
through the desert thou didst go.

Spirit of our God descending,
fill our hearts with heavenly joy,
love with every passion blending,
pleasure that can never cloy,
thus provided, pardoned, guided,
nothing can our peace destroy.

The Prayers, said by THE PRECENTOR and SACRIST

Let us pray.
Lord have mercy upon us
Answer. Christ have mercy upon us.

Precentor. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses. As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil. Amen.

Responses said
Precentor. O Lord, save thy servant, and thy handmaid; Answer. Who put their trust in thee.

Precentor. O Lord, send them help from thy holy place. Answer. And evermore defend them.

Precentor. Be unto them a tower of strength. Answer. From the face of their enemy.

Precentor. O Lord, hear our prayer; Answer. And let our cry come unto thee.

THE PRAYERS

By THE CARDINAL ARCHBISHOP OF WESTMINSTER

Almighty God, giver of life and love, bless ANDREW and SARAH, whom thou hast now joined in Christian marriage. Grant them wisdom and devotion in their life together, that each may be to the other a strength in need, a comfort in sorrow, and a companion in joy. So unite their wills in thy will, and their spirits in thy Spirit, that they live and grow together in love and peace all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

By THE MODERATOR OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who hast given marriage to be a source of blessing to mankind, we thank thee for the joys of family life. May we know thy presence and peace in our homes; fill them with thy love, and use them for thy glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

By THE MODERATOR OF THE FREE CHURCH FEDERAL COUNCIL

O Merciful Lord, and heavenly Father, by whose gracious gift mankind is increased: We beseech thee, assist with thy blessings these two persons; that they may both be fruitful in procreation of children, and also live together so long in godly love and honesty, that they may see their children christianly and virtuously brought up, to thy praise and honour; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

By THE CHAPLAIN OF THE ELEET

(Prayer of Sir Francis Drake)

O Lord God, when thou givest to thy servants to endeavour any great matter, grant us also to know that it is not the beginning, but the continuing of the same until it be thoroughly finished, which yieldeth the true glory; through him, who for the finishing of thy work laid down his life: our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

By THE ARCHBISHOP OF YORK

Almighty God, Father of all mercies and giver of all grace, we ask thy blessing on the members of the Royal Family as they fulfil their service among us; that both by their word and example our nation and commonwealth may be strengthened in love of righteousness and freedom, and preserved in unity and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing of the Couple by THE ARCHBISHOP OF YORK

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Four upon you the riches of his grace, sanctify and bless you, that ye may please him both in body and soul, and live together in holy love unto your lives' end. Amen.

The Congregation remains kneeling while the Choir sings

THE ANTHEM *William Walton*

Set me as a seal upon thine heart,
As a seal upon thine arm;
For love is strong as death;
Many waters cannot quench love,
Neither can the floods drown it:
Set me as a seal upon thine heart
For love is strong as death.

HYMN

Come down, O love divine,
Seek thou this soul of mine.
And visit it with thine own ardour glowing:
O Comforter, draw near,
Within my heart appear,
And kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn,
Thy earthly passions turn
To dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
And let thy glorious light
Shine ever on my sight,
And clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

Let holy charity,
Mine outward vesture be,
And lowliness become mine inner clothing;
True lowliness of heart,
Which takes the humbler part,
And o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

And so the yearning strong,
With which the soul will long,
Shall far outpass the power of human telling;
For some can guess its grace,
For some can guess its place,
Till he become the place,
Wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.

THE BLESSING BY THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY

God the Holy Trinity make you strong in faith and love, defend you on every side, and guide you in truth and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

God save our gracious Queen,
Long live our noble Queen,
God save the Queen:
Send her victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us:
God save the Queen

ANTHEMS during the signing of the Registers
Laudate Dominum
Exultate jubilate *Mozart*

MUSIC FOR THE FINAL PROCESSION
The Triumphal March from Caractacus
Crown Imperial *Edward Elgar*



THE NEW £2 COIN Available from Post Offices now!

To celebrate the 1986 Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh, the Royal Mint is issuing a special commemorative £2 coin. If you would like one or more for yourself, or relatives, simply go along to your nearest Post Office.



The edge of the new £2 coin bears the inscription "XIII COMMONWEALTH GAMES SCOTLAND 1986" together with the crown-emerald mint mark of the Royal Mint.

Never before has the United Kingdom issued a coin to honour a sporting event. It is also the first time the UK has struck a £2 coin in nickel-brass, (the same metal used for the £1 coin) and like the £1 coin it is legal tender. But, unlike the £1 coin, it is not intended for general circulation. It is purely a commemorative issue.

You can obtain the standard coin, at face value, for £2. There are also special collector versions available.

For further details, write direct to the Royal Mint, PO Box 500 Cardiff, CF1 1HA.



Nakas triumph control

Peking se

Rebels hit Kabul in heavy raid

Chickens problem

Nakasone uses election triumph to strengthen control as party leader

From a Correspondent Tokyo

Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, the Japanese leader, reaped the rewards of election success yesterday by easily retaining his post as Prime Minister and locking into place a new Party and Cabinet team which should assure him an extension of his term.

Mr Nakasone, who led his ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) to its biggest general election victory on July 6, smiled broadly as Japan's parliament overwhelmingly voted him back as its leader.

The Prime Minister then announced his new Cabinet. As expected, Mr Nakasone placed one of his most vocal economic policy critics, Mr Kiuchi Miyazawa, aged 66, into the key post of Finance Minister.

Mr Miyazawa believes Japan should do more to reflate its economy to help reduce its exports.

In one move, Mr Nakasone thereby removed one of his three main LDP rivals for the leadership from the immediate succession and put Mr Miyazawa into a position where he will have to justify his pre-election criticisms of the Japanese economy.

It is also no coincidence that with Mr Miyazawa holding the purse strings, Mr Nak-

Cabinet list

Japan's new Cabinet: Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, Vice-Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru, Justice Kaname Endo, Foreign Affairs Tadashi Kuranari, Finance Kiuchi Miyazawa, Education Masayuki Fujio, Health and Welfare Juro Saito, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Mutsuki Kato, International Trade and Industry Hajime Tamura, Transport Ryutaro Hashimoto, Posts and Telecommunications Shunjiro Taniguchi, Labour Takushi Hirai, Construction Kosei Amano, Home Affairs Nobuyuki Hanashi, Chief Cabinet Secretary Masaharu Gotoda.

Directors General of government agencies: Management and Coordination Kazuo Tamaki, Defence Yuko Kurihara, Economic Planning Teisuo Kondo, Science and Technology Yataro Mitsuhashi, Environment Toshiyuki Inamura, National Land Tamiyuki Watanuki.

Mr Nakasone may be able to accede to overseas pressure to stimulate Japan's domestic growth, without being seen himself to renege on his own commitment to do the opposite and tackle the nation's huge debt with a tight fiscal policy.

The surprise post in the new Cabinet was Mr Tadashi Kuranari, aged 67, virtually completely unknown outside Japan, as Foreign Minister.

Mr Kuranari is one of Mr Nakasone's closest aides and is expected to help the Prime Minister take an even bigger role in foreign affairs than he has done.

Mr Nakasone's first-name relationship with President Reagan has underlined his aggressive, personal role in foreign policy, which has marked him as unique among Japanese leaders and has done wonders for the Japanese image abroad.

If a leader executes foreign policy as flamboyantly as Mr Nakasone has done, it counts in elections, said Mr Michio Watanabe, the International Trade and Industry Minister, last week.

Such praise did Mr Watanabe no good in the reshuffle. He lost his post to Mr Hajime Tamura, aged 62, who has supported Mr Nakasone's bid to extend his power.

Mr Nakasone's other two rivals for the leadership, Mr Noboru Takeshita, the former Finance Minister, and Mr Shintaro Abe, the former Foreign Minister, have already resigned from their government posts.

They have taken the number two and three jobs in the LDP, hoping to consolidate leadership of their respective factions to challenge Mr Nakasone later.

Business News, page 21



Mr Nakasone bowing as he acknowledges applause in Parliament after being voted back overwhelmingly as its leader.

Hopes fade for speedy release of journalist

From A Correspondent, Peking

Hopes for the quick release of Mr John Burns, aged 41, a correspondent for the New York Times, began to fade yesterday on the sixth day of his detention by Chinese authorities.

Mr Burns, the Peking bureau chief for the US newspaper, was detained last Thursday on accusations of "entering an area forbidden to foreigners, gathering intelligence information, and espionage".

The accusations apparently stem from his travels through restricted areas of Shaanxi and Shanxi provinces at the beginning of the month.

Under Chinese law he can be held for up to 10 days without cause.

His wife, Miss Jane Scott-Long, was unexpectedly denied permission yesterday to visit him at the detention centre in Peking tomorrow.

Mr A M Rosenthal, the executive editor of the New York Times, met Mr Li Zhaoxing, the deputy director of the Foreign Ministry's information department, for 35 minutes yesterday. "I told him that if they had wanted to make their point that foreigners should not go into restricted areas, they had made it," he said.

A British diplomat said that under the 1984 Sino-British consular agreement, British officials may not be able to visit Mr Burns again for 30 days.

Pep talk by Zia fuels tensions with India

From Hasan Akhtar, Islamabad

A pep talk this week by General Zia ul-Haq to Pakistani troops in forward areas of the territory disputed with India seems to have fuelled reports of rising tension between India and Pakistan. One consequence has been the indefinite postponement of the visit of Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister.

General Zia, Pakistan's President and Army chief, has been touring Pakistan's northern areas. On Monday, accompanied by General K M Arif, Vice-Chief of Army Staff and operational commander of the Pakistan Army, he told troops in an unidentified forward area that "God Almighty would reward them for the sacred job of defence they

were performing in a sensitive region.

Pakistan-Indian relations have been deteriorating, with Pakistan alleging that Indian troops occupied strategic positions in the Pakistan part of the disputed Jammu and Kashmir state in 1984 and India claiming that Pakistan has supported Sikh separatists.

Border clashes between troops are reported to have resulted in deaths and injuries in recent months.

Speaking at a public meeting in Gilgit on Sunday, General Zia went beyond the previously stated position on Kashmir. He said Kashmir was an integral part and lifeline of Pakistan.

Mine kills 28 as talks continue in Colombo

From Vijitha Yapa Colombo

A landmine exploded under a bus in northern Sri Lanka yesterday, killing 28 people.

Separatist Tamil guerrillas are believed responsible for the incident in Kuchikadiya, near Vavuniya. Among the dead were seven women and children. Fourteen seriously injured were taken to Anuradhapura hospital, 35 miles away.

Most of the victims are from the majority Sinhala community.

In Colombo, despite the continuing violence in the north and east in which both Sinhala and Tamil civilians are dying, talks continued between the moderate Tamil United Liberation Front and President Jayewardene amid optimism that some headway is being made.

Both sides are keeping silent on the nature of the talks but on Monday, the TULF leaders met the Finance Minister, Mr Ronnie de Mel, to examine details of finances for the provincial councils, the proposed unit of devolution.

TULF will meet Mrs Sirima Bandaranaike, the leader of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party, tomorrow. Her party opposes the Government's proposals on devolution and said it would boycott the political parties' conference chaired by President Jayewardene today where the details of devolution were being discussed.

The secretary general of TULF, Mr Appapillai Amirthalingam, said on Monday that it was tragic that whenever the party in power tried to solve the ethnic problem, the opposition adopted a chauvinistic line and sought to wear the Sinhala public away from the party in power.

Peking sees benefit in bankruptcy

From David Bonavia Hong Kong

Bankruptcy is good, according to the latest thinking in China. A Peking economic journal has said the collapse of industrial enterprises that cannot make their operations pay

enables the state to "reduce its operational risks".

The bankruptcy of an important state-owned industrial enterprise has recently been reported in Peking media.

Observers here are intrigued by the adoption of the idea of

bankruptcy, specially in view of recent pronouncements on the desirability of joint-stock companies in the mainland's industry.

Conservative planners in China will be dismayed by the trend, which may bring political conflict.

Rebels hit Kabul in heavy raid

Islamabad (AFP) - Muslim rebels fighting to hold their strongholds in Herat and Kandahar have moved into Kabul with protracted and co-ordinated attacks on the Soviet Embassy and other Soviet interests in the capital, Western diplomats said "yesterday".

Last week the Mujahedeen mounted a two-hour attack on the Embassy, a residential complex for Soviet diplomats, the KGB offices and the Russian cultural centre, the diplomats said.

They reported a two-hour gun battle near a Soviet army complex at Darul Aman, adding that Kabul residents heard 25 loud explosions in the vicinity.

Small-arms skirmishes were also reported near the Foreign Ministry and the Prime Minister's office, they said, without giving details.

Contradicting a Soviet claim that the resistance in Herat, bordering Iran, was under control, the Western diplomats said heavy fighting continued in the city, with the old town mostly razed.

They said the Mujahedeen still controlled a substantial portion of Herat, at the cost of destruction of much of the town. They added that the heavy bombing had left heavy civilian casualties.

Trouble brewing Down Under Australia turns its blind eye to crisis

From Stephen Taylor, Sydney

The serious decline of the Australian economy has done little to disturb the comforting belief held by most Australians that they live in one of the world's wealthiest nations.

That is perhaps not surprising when a population of around 16 million boasts more than 25,000 millionaires, and when on a breezy day there seems to be as many yachts skimming Sydney Harbour as there are city residents.

But there is a relatively new side to this glossy coin: Australia may still be among the most affluent of nations but its most egalitarianism is fading. In the hard times ahead the main sufferers are going to be the fastest-growing sector of the population - the poor.

Mr Julian Disney, the president of the Australian Council of Social Service, which represents all welfare agencies, says Australia has become a more unfair and selfish place: a more polarized society where "poverty is as bad as that in Britain or the United States".

The statistics he quotes are eloquent. In the past decade per capita gross domestic product has risen by more than 10 per cent, yet the number of people living below

the poverty line has more than doubled to almost three million, or 17.5 per cent of the population.

More than 800,000 children, one in five of the population under the age of 16, live below the poverty line - a computed income level which, in the case of a family of four, is less than Aus \$267 (about £115) a week.

Ten years ago the poor were mainly pensioners. Now they include the long-term unemployed and single mothers, whose numbers have risen sharply since the Family Law Act simplified divorce.

Not all those below the poverty line are in such dire straits that they are unable to feed or clothe themselves, but the strain on the community is showing. Bodies such as the Salvation Army have reported an unprecedented demand for assistance. In the past year the "Salvos" have had to increase services of emergency accommodation and food parcels by around 18 per cent.

Welfare organizations are watching apprehensively for what will emerge from the Federal Government's surgery on next month's budget, which is expected to hit pensions and family allowances.

Chickens bring Nicaragua's problems home to roost

From John Carlin Managua

With Nicaragua facing its worst food shortages in seven years of Sandinista rule, a recent catastrophe which befell the chicken industry has done little for the Government's waning popularity.

A full 20 per cent, or 180,000, of Nicaragua's best tery chickens had to be killed earlier this month when they began to attack each other, so desperate had they become for something to eat. The chicken landing on Nicaraguans' plates lately has been astonishingly emaciated and sparrow-like.

The problem, the government now admits, was lack of protein in the chicken-feed. What is less clear is why the problem emerged in the first place, especially as chicken production had been one of the great Sandinista successes, with the number in Nicaragua having doubled since the overthrow of the dictator Anastasio Somoza in 1979.

Two explanations have been put forward. One is that the protein, or soya, content of chicken-feed has to be imported, something impossible to do given Nicaragua's chronic shortage of foreign currency.

The other, according to a report on the official Voice of Nicaragua radio station, is that the ministry responsible failed to realize in time that it had a vast consignment of soya-based chicken feed lying in a warehouse in the Pacific port of Corinto.

Both explanations - and the truth probably lies somewhere in the middle - identify key weaknesses in an economy increasingly under threat from the Contra guerrillas, support for whom is growing in Washington.

Western diplomats say that had management and a collapse in export income have encouraged that school of thought subscribed to by the White House, which believes that Nicaragua's three million people, fed up with economic deprivation, will sooner or later rise up behind the Contras and overthrow the left-wing Sandinistas.

The Government does not deny the problem. "We are experiencing the worst moments since the triumph of the Sandinista revolution, a crisis so profound that even supplying food is difficult," said Sergio Ramirez, the Vice-President, said last month.

Not only chicken but also such staples as beans, bread and rice are becoming scarce. Nicaragua was self-sufficient in rice last year. Now rice is having to be imported from the Soviet Union.

But Nicaraguans are not starving. Nicaragua is a tropical, naturally bountiful country. As a senior diplomat wryly remarked this week, "things are not at all bad if you compare them, say, to Romania in January". Yet food is becoming a political problem.

The US-financed Contra war, the Government is always quick to say, is at the heart of

the problem. According to the Economy Ministry six years of fighting have led to losses to the country of \$1 billion (\$666 million) - a huge amount given export income this year will not exceed \$260 million, a sum which covers only one third of the economy's foreign income needs.

This added to the fact that 40 per cent of the country's resources - and the best of its manpower - are absorbed by the war has meant that the dreams of development and growth so cherished in the heady days after Somoza's fall have had to give way to a policy now of sheer survival.

In the face of a 14-month-old American trade embargo, Nicaragua has had to turn increasingly for help to the Soviet bloc - the source now of 84 per cent of international credits and assistance. As this dependence inevitably grows, the Sandinistas will continue - not without reason - to blame the war.

Yet in the capital Managua and other cities the war has hardly been felt, its being confined mainly to the remote mountains of the north.

All the grumbling, discontented majority of Nicaraguans know for sure is that they are eating less. If 180,000 under-nourished chickens have suddenly to be killed off or, as happened recently, 20,000 tonnes of meat are forgotten in a state-owned warehouse and left to rot, the blame, people will say, lies with the Government.

THE VOLKSWAGEN LT 31, AND HOW IT'S CURING A WASTING DISEASE.

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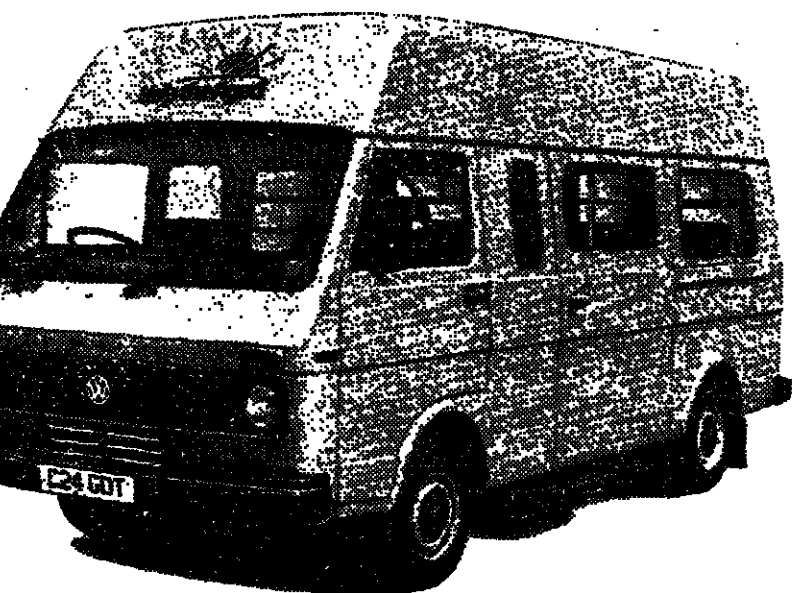
In Britain, one household in seven is inhabited by an old person living on their own. One million have no regular visitors. Half a million can't walk without help.

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The Rainbow Warrior affair

Legal muddle fails to delay agents transfer

From Richard Long, Wellington

Mr Paul Neazor, the New Zealand Solicitor-General, cleared the way yesterday for the two French agents, jailed for their part in the Rainbow Warrior sabotage, to be deported into French custody in spite of last-minute legal moves by an Auckland lawyer.

Mr Neazor, who is in Britain, signed a stay of proceedings order to thwart attempts by Mr Colin Amery, a lawyer, to have the agents held in New Zealand to face a private prosecution under the Explosives Act.

This followed a day of drama in the Auckland District Court in which Mr Amery won from a District Court judge, Mrs Augusta Wallace, a ruling that the two agents should be produced in court at 10 am today.

Further action against Dominique Prieur and Alain Mafart would have held up their release into French custody, as ordered under the Rainbow Warrior arbitration ruling by Señor Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the United Nations Secretary General.

The agents were to be handed over by July 25 in exchange for an apology from France for the incident, \$7 million (£4.7 million) in compensation and an end to trade sanctions.

But Mr Jim McLay, the Opposition Justice spokesman, and a former attorney general, last night criticized

Mr Geoffrey Palmer, the Attorney General, for leaving the stay of proceedings action to the Solicitor-General.

Mr McLay said this was "buck-passing of the worst order" by Mr Palmer, who was also in Britain, and could have signed the order just as easily as Mr Neazor.

Mr McLay said the tradition in New Zealand was for the Attorney General to act in cases in which he was answerable to Parliament. The Rainbow Warrior case certainly fell into that category, he said.

Mr David Lange, the New Zealand Prime Minister, said on Monday that the Government and the Attorney General would not act to thwart the private prosecution. This was a matter for the Solicitor-General and the courts to decide.

Anchor butter gets EEC blessing

From Jonathan Braude, Brussels

The European Community has set new quotas for the import of New Zealand butter into Britain, in a decision which ensures a place for Anchor butter on supermarket shelves for the next two years.

The quotas will be 76,000 tonnes in 1987 and 74,500 tonnes in 1988, sharply reduced from the 1986 quota of 79,000 tonnes but still roughly a quarter of packet butter sales in Britain.

The arrangement was agreed in record time, in spite of Irish opposition, because of French silence in the negotiations. In other years France has led the attack on New Zealand imports but agreed not to oppose the deal this year, under the settlement of the Rainbow Warrior dispute between Paris and Wellington.

Deprived of French backing, Mr Peter Barry, the Irish Foreign Minister, dropped his demand for even larger cuts. In return he received assurances from the European Commission that young Irish farmers would be allowed extra production quotas.

Similar schemes could be available in Britain if the Government gives the go-ahead.

Students cracked top French computer

From Susan MacDonald, Paris

Three young computer technology students have come forward and admitted that they were the "pirates" who caused a scandal by breaking in to one of France's biggest and best-protected computer systems.

The break-in came over the Easter weekend at the Ecole Polytechnique, where the huge Cray-One computer, which stores top-secret defence and technological data, is installed.

The three students, who refused to give their names or where they study, came forward after having read about the rumpus.

In an interview with *Le Matin*, they explained that they had meant no harm but had broken into some 15 of France's largest computer systems during the Easter holidays, including that at Renault, just to see how far they could go.

Describing how they had worked through the night when monitoring control would be less, they said that once they obtained the right code "it was magic" - they could do what they wanted.

Once Ecole Polytechnique discovered the break-in, officials' fears of professional espionage led them to clean out the whole system, change the passwords and cut lines of access to the front-end computer, which is where the break-in occurred.

It has been suggested that the students should be hired to improve the protection of sensitive computer systems.

Language riot leads to curfew in Assam

From Kuldip Nayar, Delhi

An indefinite curfew has been placed on the town of Karimunj in southern Assam, India, after six people were killed in a language riot on Monday.

Three of the dead were policemen, two lynched by the mob and one killed in shooting. The Army has been called in to oversee the curfew.

The cause of trouble was a government circular making Assamese a compulsory language. Karimunj is a Bengali-speaking town which has been the scene of many protests against the imposition of Assamese on Bengali-speaking population.

Nearly 1,000 people, mostly students, gathered outside the house where Mr Prafulla Mahanta, Assam's Chief Minister, was staying.

The demonstrators, carrying black flags, first shouted slogans against Mr Mahanta and later tried to break through a security cordon to reach the house.

Police used batons and tear gas to disperse the mob but when there was no effect they opened fire, killing three. The demonstrators retaliated by seizing two policemen and killing them on the spot. The third policeman was killed accidentally in the firing.

According to the language formula adopted by the Indian Government, in consultation with the states, every student has to read three languages: their mother tongue, Hindi and English. Linguistic minorities have to read the state language as well.

Ciskei can be sued in English courts

Gar Corporation v Trust Bank of Africa Ltd
Before Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Nourse and Lord Justice Giddwell
(Judgment given July 22)

Although the Government of the Republic of Ciskei was not recognized as an independent sovereign state by the United Kingdom Government, it was a subordinate body set up by the Republic of South Africa to act on the latter's behalf, and as such had *locus standi* to sue and be sued in English courts.

The Court of Appeal so held when allowing an appeal by the defendants, the Trust Bank of Africa Ltd, from a decision of Mr Justice Steyn (*The Times*, June 3, 1986), that the Government of the Republic of Ciskei had no *locus standi* to defend or counterclaim as a third party in proceedings brought by the plaintiffs, the Gar Corporation, against the defendants.

Mr Peter Cresswell, QC, Mr Eilhu Lauterpacht, QC and Mr John Jarvis for the defendants; Mr Simon Tuckey, QC and Mr Anthony Temple, QC for the Ciskei Government; Mr John Laws as *amicus curiae*; Mr Antonio Bueno for the plaintiffs.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that the plaintiffs had contracted to build a hospital and two schools in Ciskei. In connection with that contract the plaintiffs had asked the defendants to issue a guarantee in favour of the building owners.

In due course the building owners had demanded payment under the guarantee. The defendants declined to pay on the ground that no demand complying with the conditions of the guarantee had been made before its expiry. In the ensuing litigation all three parties had been before the court.

Mr Justice Steyn had tried as a preliminary point the issue of whether the building owner, calling itself "the Government of the Republic of Ciskei", had any *locus standi* in the courts of England. He had decided it had none.

In 1981 the South African Parliament had enacted the Status of Ciskei Act 1981, which had purported to declare that the territory of Ciskei constituted a sovereign and independent state and was no longer part of the Republic of South Africa. The Act had also purported to empower the legislative assembly of Ciskei to make laws (including a constitution) for Ciskei.

There were no materials on the basis of which it might have been argued that the Government of Ciskei might be viewed as the same entity as the local government which existed immediately prior to the passing of the 1981 Act.

The mere fact that a party to litigation chose to describe itself as "the Government of the Republic of..." did not of itself create any problem of *locus standi*. It might be a trade name, a firm name, a description of what was known in the travel industry as an "affinity group" or simply an example of what his Lordship ventured to call the "Firmlico Syndrome" after the classic film *Passport to Pimlico*.

It was not such a case, and what might otherwise be treated as mere pretentiousness could not be so lightly dismissed, since the Republic of Ciskei was undoubtedly recognized by the Republic of South Africa.

In those circumstances steps were taken to inform the judge of the attitude of the United Kingdom Government towards the Republic of Ciskei.

In *Carl Zeiss Stiftung v Rayner & Keeler Ltd (No 2)* (1967) 1 AC 853 the House of Lords held that the English courts could take cognizance of the legislative authority of the German Democratic Republic because, while they could not treat it as a sovereign state with legislative powers as such, they could and should treat it as having effective legislative powers on the footing that its legislative acts were those of a subordinate body set up by the USSR to act on its behalf.

It was important to bear in mind the change of practice whereby the United Kingdom

Government no longer formally recognized governments.

Mr Justice Steyn had concluded that the courts should not treat the Government of the Republic of Ciskei in the same way as they had treated the Government of the GDR.

In *Carl Zeiss* what was certified was that the USSR was *de jure* entitled to exercise governing authority in the Eastern Bloc and that it did so. In the case of Ciskei similarly there was no certificate that the Republic of South Africa in fact exercised governing authority.

What was left to be inferred from the *Carl Zeiss* certificate was, expressed in the terms of the certificate, that the United Kingdom Government "does not have a formal position as regards the exercise of governing authority".

There was an apparent contrast between the two certificates. In the case of the GDR the certificate conferred governing authority. In each case the certificates were conclusive that the GDR or the Ciskei were recognized as independent sovereign states.

In the case of the GDR the certificate pointed expressly to where superior authority was to be found. The question was whether the Ciskei certificate, either alone or with other evidence, pointed to any superior authority of which the courts could take cognizance, as supplying the requisite authority to enable the Government of the Republic of Ciskei to undertake executive, administrative or legislative acts.

In reviewing and evaluating other evidence the court had to disregard any declarations by Acts of the Republic of South Africa or of the Republic of Ciskei which conflicted with the certificates of the United Kingdom Government.

The court had to disregard section 1(1) of the Status of Ciskei Act 1981, which declared the Republic of Ciskei to be a sovereign and independent state ceasing to be part of the Republic of South Africa.

Section 1(2) of the Act declared that the Republic of South Africa would cease to exercise any authority over the territory. It had also also disregarded section 1(1) of the Republic of Ciskei Constitution Act 1981.

The court could and had to take cognizance of the remainder of those Acts. Thus section 3(1) of the Status of Ciskei Act 1981 became a straightforward delegation of legislative power which could be revoked in the same way as it had been confirmed by legislative Act of the Republic of South Africa.

The constitutional history of the territory of Ciskei was known, and the court could take judicial notice of the fact that the Republic of South Africa was a recognized sovereign state entitled to exercise sovereignty over Ciskei until the passing of the Status of Ciskei Act 1981. If section 1 of that Act was disregarded there were no materials from which to infer that the situation had changed.

The legal status of the Republic of Ciskei and its Government was indistinguishable from that of the GDR at the time of the *Carl Zeiss* case.

The appeal should be allowed and a declaration granted that the Government of the Republic of Ciskei had *locus standi* in the UK courts as being a subordinate body set up by the Republic of South Africa to act on its behalf.

LORD JUSTICE NOURSE, agreeing, said that the rule that the judiciary and the executive had to speak with one voice presupposed that the judiciary could understand what the executive had said. Where there was a doubt, the judiciary had to resolve it by looking at the question and construing the answer given.

It was not for the judiciary to criticize any obscurity in the expressions of the executive, nor to inquire into their origins or policy. They had to take them as they stood.

LORD JUSTICE GIDDWELL agreed with both judgments.

Solicitors: Durrant Plesse; Barlow Lyde & Gilbert; Treasury Solicitor; Victor Mispiton & Co.

Judge's irritation led to injustice

Millington v KSC & Sons
Lord Justice Watkins, Lord Justice Purchas and Sir David Cairns
(Judgment given July 9)

When a trial judge expressed his disapproval of the solicitors' incompetence in failing to secure the attendance of material witnesses at the trial by refusing to grant an adjournment to enable the witnesses to attend, that amounted to an improper exercise of his discretion.

The Court of Appeal so held, ordering a retrial of an action heard by Sir Hugh Park at Plymouth District Registry on January 29, 1986 when he gave judgment for the plaintiff, Colin Michael Millington against the defendants, KSC & Sons.

Mr Jeremy Carey for the defendants; Mr Christopher Goddard for the plaintiffs.

LORD JUSTICE WATKINS said that the parties were able to agree damages before the trial came on and therefore the only issue for the judge was culpability in a collision which took place on a dual carriageway at Hayle Causeway in Cornwall between a lorry belonging to the defendants and a lorry driven by the plaintiff.

The appeal was as to the judge's omission to hear two independent witnesses who were not in attendance. He had refused an application to adjourn so that the witnesses could give independent accounts of their recollections.

Both witnesses could have helped the judge in his considerations. One in particular was driving behind the two lorries and had a first-class view of what led to the collision so that

he could have been of crucial importance on the issue of liability or contributory negligence.

In refusing an adjournment the judge said that the plaintiff had been waiting for over two years and now owing to the incompetence of the defendants' solicitors he was being asked to go away again.

It was apparent from those observations that the judge was irritated by the failure of the defendants' solicitors to have their tackle in order that day and moreover he was quite rightly making it plain to them that they had shown lack of regard for the court.

The judge was more concerned with the solicitors' incompetence and the way in which they had treated the court than he was with the possible dangers of going on without the witnesses and therefore he did not in the exercise of his discretion observe the cardinal principle that the interests of justice were served.

LORD JUSTICE PURCHAS said that the Court of Appeal was reluctant to interfere with the exercise of the judge's discretion, but the judge had concentrated so much on the conduct of the solicitors that he had failed to put in the balance the crucial importance of the witnesses on the central issue of whether a signal to turn left was given.

The matter had to be remitted for retrial with the proper evidence.

Solicitors: Lawrence Graham; Bond Pearce, Plymouth.

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UP TO THE MINUTE IN SERVICE

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THE TIMES DIARY

Open door for Keyes

The humiliation of black businessman Robert Brown, the White House's choice for ambassador to South Africa, has not dashed President Reagan's hopes of making an anti-apartheid gesture to Pretoria. Another black, I understand, has now emerged as front-runner for the post. He is Alan Keyes, the highest ranking black in the State Department and now in charge of the Bureau of International Organization Affairs. A right-winger, Keyes won his spurs as senior assistant to Jeane Kirkpatrick when she was US ambassador to the United Nations. Usefully, having jumped the hoops of congressional hearings to reach his present job, he would not have to face further inquisitions. Brown withdrew his candidacy on Monday amid allegations about past anti-busting and his business associations with the fugitive Nigerian, Umaru Dikko.

Action stations

Will the Territorial Army be the next victim of Labour boroughs' displeasure? I pose the question since Newham has just joined the like-minded authorities of Camden, Islington, Lambeth and Hackney in withdrawing representatives from the Territorial Auxiliary and Volunteer Reserve Association for Greater London. The traditional function of these reps has been to liaise with the association over such events as Remembrance Day and recruitment fairs. Bernie Cockcroft, the association's assistant secretary, tells me that representatives from other left-wing London councils still attend, and that recruitment continues unabated in traditionally strong TA catchment areas like Newham, regardless of local politics.

Living in hope

Another unfortunate, if unwitting, marriage between politics and the pulpit. In the course of today's service at Westminster Abbey the Archbishop of York will beseech the Lord that through the word and example of the Royal Family, "our nation and Commonwealth may be strengthened in love of righteousness and freedom, and preserved in unity..."

Full spate

Thames Water has been flooded with complaints over ambiguously worded water bills. Many customers thought that payments due on April 1 could be paid by June 30. In fact the June 30 date was a deadline not for payment but for the authority to initiate action against non-payers. As a result, thousands of red final notice warnings went out. Thames assures me the next batch of bills will be reworded.

BARRY FANTONI



"And it's Britain first, second, third, fourth and fifth"

Point made

The electricity people expect big surges in demand today and tonight when television viewers rush to make the tea or turn on lights during breaks in the wedding coverage. At one point the Charles-Diana wedding created a 1,800-megawatt strain on the power stations. The national control room in south London says that although today is not a public holiday, as it was for the 1981 event, plans have been made to cope with a 600-megawatt increase in demand.

Sotto voce

British architects get on your marks. There is to be a competition to design a new ambassadorial residence in Moscow, intended to be a showcase for the best of British architecture. It will replace the present building, with a river view of the Kremlin, which the ambassador has occupied since the 1930s. Competitors will need to know how to make a building bug-proof, a feature notoriously absent from the current embassy complex. "Take my word," a Foreign Office spokesman tells me, "it's something we'll be paying a lot of attention to."

In the balcony

Office windows and balconies overlooking today's royal route are at something of a premium, and none more so than the six balconies of a Denver-based company, Scientific Software-Intercomp Inc, which overlook the entrance to Westminster Abbey. Bob Parish, the company MD, tells me he has been besieged by journalists and photographers baying for a space, but he has sensibly restricted the offer of an eagle eye view to *The Times*, from which I shall bring you news anon.

PHS



Anne: fulfilled

The royal wedding is in one sense a theatrical show, and a very good one too. The monarchy, like Janus, has two faces; sometimes it parades itself as a pageant, at others it dons an occult face of secrecy. Both aspects are essential for its survival and influence.

No doubt the wedding and its coverage will cost a considerable sum of money, but why not? There is something to be said for a splendid monarchy and something for a mean monarchy there is nothing to be said whatsoever. As Bagehot puts it: "It is better to spend a million in dazzling when you wish to dazzle, than three quarters of a million in trying to dazzle and yet not dazzling." Monarchy on the cheap, in Britain at any rate, would turn out to be a spectacularly false economy.

Today's wedding has also a deeper and symbolic significance. We have a family on the throne, not a single person. Every citizen knows what it is like to have a marriage in the family and the hopes and ideals which constellate around the event. In a very real sense then the ceremony in Westminster Abbey represents a

As Prince Andrew marries, a review of changing roles for the royals and coverage of weddings past - plus a celebration from the Poet Laureate

Timely reminder that royal is more than a monarch

Norman St John-Stevens charts changing times

of subjects than the sovereign herself. Prince Philip has fully availed himself of this privilege, and the losses have been outweighed by the gains.

The consort's other contribution has been to supplement the monarchy's stabilizing role by meeting the need for change. Again there has been a parallel between the activities of Prince Albert and Prince Philip. Both have played a major part in freeing the monarchy from outmoded social customs and connexions, which were becoming cumbersome and stifling. It was at Prince Philip's prompting, for example, that the old style socially privileged Buckingham Palace garden parties were done away with and replaced by the present meretricious gatherings dominated by mayors.

The Prince of Wales's task is to prepare himself for eventually assuming the burden of kingship. He has the freedom and opportunity to supplement a formal

education by a wide range of experience, all of which will be helpful in exercising his monarchical duties. Prince Charles has extended the range of the Royal Family in two very different directions - one in the arts world, especially in the spheres of music and architecture, and the other towards concern for social problems, supplementing conventional charitable activities by coming to grips with some of the problems and contradictions lying just beneath the surface of contemporary British society.

That leaves the junior members of the Royal Family, the younger sons and daughter, Princess Anne, Prince Andrew, and Prince Edward. What is expected of them and what can they achieve? In the past they had very little choice: they were condemned to marry princelings or to be immured in the armed services. The situation is different today: within the bounds of current social and moral conventions they are free to do their own thing.

They owe a greater debt than perhaps they realize for this liberation to Princess Margaret and Lord Snowdon. It was Prin-

cess Margaret who broke out of the royal magic circle by marrying a commoner. Lord Snowdon made his own contribution to royal liberation by insisting on being free to carry on his own profession as a photographer which it had been widely expected he would have to abandon. This was all part of the social revolution of the Sixties: the critics of that revolution should pause and consider what we would have to go back to if it were to be done away with as they seem to wish.

Princess Anne has been strikingly successful in developing a combined private and public life style of her own. She too married a non-royal of her own choice and her work for the poor and starving children of the world has not only been personally fulfilling for her but has played a major part in arousing the public conscience in Britain to our duties towards the Third World. It is impossible to recognize in the dedicated, intrepid and acclaimed worker for good causes the potentially difficult, frustrated and unpopular princess that at one time she threatened to become.

So if one asks what Prince



Edward: free to follow a career

Andrew and his bride will actually do, the answer is quite clear: within reason anything they like. If Prince Andrew wishes to stay in the navy or to leave it and pursue some other profession that is a matter for him. If his wife, like many other young wives, wants to continue at work she is free to do so.

These basic liberties may strike us as obvious enough but they have taken centuries to establish. Nor is there anything incompatible between taking advantage of them and discharging the functions of a public life. It is certainly to be hoped that they will take this course since the demands on the Queen are heavy and growing.

Today there will be celebrations and rejoicings throughout the land and it would be a curmudgeon indeed who would begrudge the young couple their obvious happiness and fulfillment. And when the wedding bells cease to ring out, the good natured and popular pair will enjoy something uncommon enough in our conformist society but rare indeed among royals: the inestimable privilege to be themselves.

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Philip Howard gets out the files to see how we covered previous royal weddings



Coverage contrasts: how The Times reported the weddings of the future Edward VII - on an inside page, of course - in 1863 and Princess Anne in 1973. In between, the weddings of the future George V (1893), the future George VI (1923) and the present Queen (1947)

Royal weddings excite newspapers to gushers of ink and rainbows of colour writing. They can be anticipated, unlike most news, and Fleet Street believes the mercenary folklore that royal nuptials sell papers. Bagehot was blunt enough to express this view: "Women - one half the human race at least - care fifty times more for a marriage than a ministry."

If you want to categorize like Aristotle, you can divide the coverage of royal weddings by *The Times* over the past two centuries into four stages: the Primitive; the High Victorian Exhaustive; the Impressionist, with the arrival of photographs; and the Post-Impressionist, to try to compete with television. Royal weddings always get more space and more display than they merit in the long eye of history. But we should not underestimate the role they play as cheerful signposts to mark the passage of time.

The first big royal wedding for *The Times* was the ill match between the Prince of Wales, later George IV, and Caroline of Brunswick. We gave it two pages out of our total of four, which was handsome considering that the proprietor was only recently out of jail for libelling the Prince. You might just have guessed that not everything had gone as clockwork from our account. There was mention that the wedding had so long been delayed, from a number of unforeseen accidents. We reported that the Prince got up from his knees too soon, stopping the Archbishop in full flow.

But this Primitive account introduced a number of practices that were to become conventional: interminable tables of orders of processions; reporters along the

route; and minute accounts of what everybody was wearing, down to the last star and furbelow of the bridegroom, whom we described as looking uncommonly well, rather than drunk and looking like Death, according to a less deferential source.

The Times was never a courtly paper in the 19th century. It roused Victoria and Albert to fury by regularly attacking the marriage settlements for their children in its leaders. But it did the decent thing in the description of their weddings. The full pomp of a royal wedding colour piece was introduced for Victoria's own wedding, with the first quintuple-decker headline in our history: admittedly a dullish one:

Celebration of Her Majesty's Marriage with His Royal Highness Prince Albert of Saxe Coburg and Gotha

Three pages out of eight were given to description of the ceremony and frequent processions, with additional particulars from the Court Newsmen. Another page in small type, with no headlines and no leading, ie, at least 10,000 words, was devoted to Prince Albert's pedigree. "It is right that the British public should

be introduced to the family as well as the individual, and we promise them they will have no reason to be ashamed of the acquaintance they thus make."

For the wedding of Victoria's eldest son, we introduced the custom of a pious sermon to the happy couple: "The fair Princess who landed on Saturday morning a stranger to the people, their habits and modes of thought, is now a member of our State, the partner for life of the Heir Apparent to the Throne, and, if the favourable omens under which..." continued on p.94.

For the Duke of York, later George V, we introduced an acanthus and vine-leaf pattern around the wedding pages, and the use of the dramatic present: "On the stroke of the appointed hour there is a commotion in the precincts of the chapel." More influentially, we invented the notion of breaking the story up into separate chapters: St James's Street. The Ceremony in the Chapel Royal, and so on. The royalty hacks will be following this example today from the village of Dummer to the crowds in the Mall.

Photography introduced the age of Impressionism in royal wedding coverage. The first half-tone photograph appeared in *The*

Times in 1914, and photography was first deployed for a royal wedding in 1919, for the marriage of Patricia of Connaught. By 1923, for the wedding of the Duke and Duchess of York, later George VI and Queen Elizabeth (now the Queen Mother), royal wedding icons were being established: the formal team photograph, the wave from the coach.

The colour writers were also rediscovering the Old English prosodic device of alliteration to disguise the paucity of news that they were describing at vast length: "Gleam and gloom were chasing each other within the Abbey." The advantage of colour writing is that you can ignore the facts and get on with the purple prose. The disadvantage is that it is difficult to sustain waffle for the length required by a royal wedding. Alliteration was to the fore in our main headline for the Queen's wedding in 1947. Splendour and Simplicity. The inky sermon explained, as it had in the case of Prince Albert a hundred years before, that the bridegroom, although a foreigner, was all right: "They know that he has been brought up among them in the English way, has distinguished himself in many sports, and afterwards in the leadership of men under the enemy's fire."

From purple prose to page one colour

After the Queen's wedding came television, and the Age of Post-Impressionism. Richard Dimbleby's commentaries brought in relaxed and avuncular description rather than the hieratic prose of the previous two centuries, which sounded like a cross between medieval plain-song and Gibbon on an off day. The press had to find new ways of describing something that everybody interested had seen several times on the box on the previous day.

For Princess Margaret's wedding *The Times*, under a notoriously uncourtly editor, did not even lead with the story, and put the evening departure to the Caribbean rather than the ceremony in the Abbey at the top. The intro was still breathlessly reverential: "They came into the body of the church with their friends and neighbours, as the rubric has it..." By Princess Anne's wedding the Age of Post-Impressionism was so established that the splash, could begin: "It was a grand morning for a wedding." It could even venture a mild touch of irreverence: "The adjective radiant trembled on even hard-bitten lips." For the Prince of Wales's wedding in 1981, by a technical miracle and at great expense, *The Times* gave the whole of its front page to a colour picture of the bride and groom on the steps of St Paul's.

The coverage of today's royal wedding is based in two centuries of history and practice. We shall do our best to surprise and delight you. But many of the conventions of the inky trade in these matters have precedents almost as old as the monarchy's.

The Honey Bee and the Thistle by Ted Hughes

A song by the Poet Laureate to celebrate the royal wedding:

Upon this day in Westminster
That brings the Prince his Bride
Out of the sun there swoops a song
That cannot be denied.
While every television trembles
In the organ blare
And their cardiographs' two butterflies
Are trying to touch in air.
While some weep at the foamy veil
That surges her to bliss
And some drink to the princely hand
That lifts it for the kiss.
Before the Country's dried its eyes
Or bells begin to ring
Cherub in a shaft of light
Sweetly starts to sing:

When all the birds of Roxburghshire
Danced on the lawns, and all
The Salmon of the Tweed cavorted
Over The Garden Wall
Gold as the Honey Bee
A helicopter snatched you up.
The pilot it was me.
The props, like a roulette wheel,
Stopped at felicity
Soft as the Thistle's crown
But now the Abbey columns
Stand like your ancestors,
And your I do has struck a root
Down through the Abbey floors.
Gold as the Honey Bee.
Now like a North pole and a South
You bear the magnet globe
And axis of our spinning land



Where chaos plays its strob
Soft as the Thistle's crown
But as the day's Commandment
Which can no longer wait
Yokes Unicorn and Lion both
To haul the coach of state
Gold as the Honey Bee
While Royal ghosts in silence
Bend at the register
And gaze into the letters
That you have written there
Soft as the Thistle's crown
Like splitting amplification
Of thunder come the cheers
And set my meaning humming in
Your honeymooning ears
Gold as the Honey Bee
Dance, dance, as Eve and Adam
Kicked their worries off

In Paradise, before they heard
God politely cough
Soft as the Thistle's crown
Then dance on, like a tuning fork
That wakes uncharity stars
In human hearts, and makes them throb
Like noble, old guitars
Gold as the Honey Bee
And dance, and dance, like Sirius
Inseparably two
Who twirl in heaven, to show the earth
What harmony can do
Soft as the Thistle's crown
For from this day, which gives you each
To each as man and wife
That's the dance, and this the song
Of a true and happy life
Gold, gold as the Honey Bee
Soft as a Thistle's crown
© Ted Hughes, 1986

moreover . . .

Miles Kington

Tickets, please

When they built Westminster Abbey, they had never considered that one day crack police marksmen might want to lie on its roof, thought Detective-Sergeant Whittaker, as he lay on the roof of Westminster Abbey. Bloody hell. I mean, if an assassin appeared on a nearby roof and he, Detective-Sergeant Whittaker, picked up one of his five available guns and blazed away at him, odds were that he, Detective-Sergeant Whittaker, would fall off the roof before he had hit him. Bloody hell.

I mean, if I were a medieval architect, he thought, I would provide lots of places for crack police marksmen. Alright, so they only had cross-bows in those days, but even so, you still need a good place to fire from. Detective-Sergeant Whittaker felt a surge of sympathy for the medieval police, even though he recognized deep down that there hadn't been any police in medieval times. Bloody hell. No police?

He was so preoccupied with these thoughts that he didn't see the man approach across the roof of Westminster Abbey and stand over him until it was too late to get out one of his five guns.

"All right," said the man. "Ave you got a ticket to be here, mate?"

Marvin J. Gordon of Oklahoma City had spent \$7,890 to be at Westminster Abbey on this day, July 23. He had come all the way from Oklahoma City to London, simply to be a devout but silent bystander. It was the only day he could get to London, as the divorce law firm for which he worked had very strict holiday rules. It was actually easier for people to get a divorce than get time off from the law firm.

He was a devotee of Dylan Thomas's poetry, and he had come all this way to meditate at Poet's Corner. He was a bit puzzled to find that some 3,000 other people seemed to have the same idea.

"All right," said a man. "Ave you got a ticket to be here?"

Howard Kilner, of 38 The Laurels, Fortescue Avenue, Pinner, Middlesex, had never been a particularly religious man. He had talked to God on occasion, but could never remember God talking to him. But suddenly, one day, he had an urge to go to Westminster Abbey and just, well, pray. I mean, sit in an empty pew and send out messages.

"All right," said a man. "Ave you got a ticket to be here, mate?"

It isn't much fun being a ticket marshal at a royal wedding. It's a bit like being a traffic warden, really. Whether you're legitimate or not, everyone resents you, thought Osric Miemeyer, who had been cross all his life because of his name.

"All right," he said roughly to a group of Icelandic sightseers, though he had no idea that they were Icelandic - he actually thought they were from Leeds or somewhere - "ave you got a ticket to be here, mate?"

The Icelanders fled. They were replaced by a rough-looking man in Abbey grey. He looked Osric up and down.

"All right," he said. "Ave you got a ticket to be here, mate?" Osric hadn't. It was the one thing he hadn't thought of.

At the door of the Abbey, Prince Andrew paused on the edge of the most wonderful adventure of his life. He was about to get married to the girl he wanted to get married to. Furthermore, he had managed to get time off for his honeymoon, and it was very unlikely that he would be called back for helicopter duty during his break. There was nothing that could go wrong now. He breathed a sigh of relief.

"All right," said a big voice. "Ave you got a ticket, mate?"

HOME

PHS



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ON THIS DAY

JULY 23 1793

The struggle between the rival factions in France during the Revolution is evident in this report of the proceedings of the Convention describing the circumstances of the assassination of Jean Paul Marat (1743-1793) on July 13. The Mountain was the party of the Paris mob. The Girondins, of which Gaudet and Brisot were members, was the party of the bourgeoisie. From Caen it strove to effect military action against its rival. Charlotte Corday was executed on July 17, 1793.

ASSASSINATION OF MARAT.

Chabot. — "Your Committee had for a considerable time been told, that a deep plot was to accompany the fête of July 14th. It was partly executed yesterday evening; and the single point now is the effecting of that Counter-Revolution in Paris on the same day that its inhabitants acquired liberty. In order to accomplish this all the Deputies of the Mountain were to be assassinated for which purpose, the conspirators of Caen kept up a criminal correspondence with their accomplices, your colleagues, who still sit in this Assembly. The day that Charlotte Corday, the woman who struck Marat the mortal blow, arrived in Paris, Duperret received a courier extraordinary from Caen. Who was that courier? That very Corday. Duperret communicated the dispatches to Fouquet."

Fouquet. — "You lie!" Chabot continued. — "A woman has been the first instrument of their crimes: this woman who has plunged a knife into Marat's bosom, seems to me to be one of those who, during the time of the Legislative Assembly, spoke to M. Gaudet in favour of the conspirators of Caen. This woman wrote thus to Marat last Friday: 'Your civism must make you desirous to discover conspirators. I have a very important one to communicate to you, and therefore beg that you will hear me at your house.' She presented herself yesterday morning; but not seeing him, left another note conceived in these terms: 'Have you received my letter? If you have received it, I rest upon your politeness. It is enough that I am unfortunate to claim your attention.'

"You see, Citizens that his female conspirator rendered justice to the civism of Marat — of Marat, who died as he lived, the constant friend of the people. Yesterday evening she again went to his house; and Marat, whose heart has ever made so many sacrifices to humanity, ordered his doors to be opened to her. She spoke a great deal to him about the conspirators who have fled to Caen. He answered her, that they would one day lose their heads upon the scaffold. At these words she plunged this knife into his bosom. (Gaudet shows the instrument.) Marat had only time to say, I am dying. His servant entered the room, and made a cry; people ran to her assistance. This new Typhon went out with audacity; she was stopped. She might have assassinated herself, but she did not. When we told her that she would lose her head upon the scaffold, she looked at us with a smile of mockery. She reckons upon the success of the traitorous plots of Caen, and doubtless hopes to escape punishment."

"But Citizens, these plots will be developed; these crimes will be punished. The people of Paris are rising; they already make their enemies tremble [applause]; and I dare say, that before the end of this week, all the enemies of the Constitution will be arrested, and that the most guilty will have lost their heads."

"In the pockets of this abominable woman were found 150 livres in silver and 140 in assignats, a letter addressed to Marat, a passport delivered the 8th of April by the Municipality of Caen, her baptismal certificate, a gold watch, etc. on her neck, the sheath of the knife and a writing in the form of an Address to the French people."

Cuthon complained, that the project of so many crimes, discovered by the fight of the conspirators from among the members of the Convention, should be yet unpunished. He moved.

First, "That the Revolutionary Tribunal should hasten the judgment against the assassin of Marat; that it should immediately proceed to the trial of Brisot, and prosecute as outlaws those deputies, who, by their flight, had deprived themselves of the protection of the laws."

"Secondly, that a Decree of Accusation be passed against Duperret, previously convicted of being an accomplice in the above murder."

Coining a cliché

From Mr K. S.J. Berrett Sir, Your correspondent Mr Bailie (July 18) has answered his own question. From now on we shall be able to refer to "the greatest thing since the demise of sliced bread". Yours faithfully, K. S.J. BERRETT, 9 Reynolds Mews, Wiltshire, Chipshire.

From Miss E. Simpson Sir, We say, "the greatest thing since the ball point pen". Yours faithfully, E. SIMPSON, 107 Boyds Walk, Dukinfield, Cheshire.

From Mr D. Livermore Sir, ... since lined paper? Yours faithfully, D. LIVERMORE, 10 Burke Avenue, Mosley, Birmingham.

From Mr Brian Cox Sir, ... the zip fly? Yours faithfully, BRIAN COX, St Christopher's, Severals Road, Bepton Midhurst, W. Sussex.

On-the-spot view of sanctions

From the Reverend C. J. Jewell Sir, The recent General Synod of the Church of England has decided that sanctions are the right medicine for South Africa's present situation.

I have been ministering in South Africa for twelve years, entirely among the "Coloured" people — i.e. those of mixed race — in the Durban area, so I am not speaking from any merely slight acquaintance with all the problems involved.

South Africa is going through a tough economic recession. There are an estimated two million or more people unemployed (much of which is hidden in the "homelands" and is therefore not counted in official figures). There is little work throughout the country in such industries as building and certain types of heavy engineering. Aid for the unemployed is restricted.

I cannot see any sense or morality in the programmes of disinvestment or of sanctions which are proposed by people usually living between six and ten thousand miles away.

These policies will lead only to more misery and poverty for those who are already poor. They will not have the desired effect of bringing peaceful change. I can only think that people who advocate these things desire to bring about, not peaceful change but revolution.

It is not only the black, Coloured and Indian workers who would suffer. Many white people are living on slender pensions or wages, and professional people such as architects, accountants, civil engineers and so on, for whom there is no state aid, are already suffering from unemployment and privation.

Sanctions have never worked in any past situation, because the imposition is never total. They will not change the Government's mind. The economies of the surrounding States will be badly affected and the whole area of southern Africa will need much more international aid.

I want to see apartheid ended as much as any one, but by effective measures which will preserve and not destroy the existing economic and industrial structures and assets, so that the country will have the means eventually to build a new and better South Africa for all. Remember you are talking about people and not mere systems or abstract subjects such as black and white. Yours faithfully, C. J. JEWELL, 80 Rippon Road, Sydenham, Durban 4091, Republic of South Africa. July 14.

In most cases the barrister is not briefed until shortly before the trial, since the vast majority of cases settle and it would be squandering the client's money to do otherwise; and at that stage it is very difficult, given the volume of documentation that often has to be mastered, and in most cases not in the client's interests anyway, for there to be a change of horses.

The Bar will have to take a step forward. It is no good its members continuing artificially to distance themselves from the bald monetary considerations of going to law. I should like to see the Bar take the initiative on this question; the other many forceful arguments that can be made in support of the present system would then have a much stronger ring to them. Yours faithfully, T. W. B. BRENTNALL, 53 Merthyr Terrace, SW13, July 14.

The high flyers

From Mrs Barbara Ashford Sir, Your society-page style of reporting (Wednesday Page, July 16) did not do justice to the High Flyers 2 Conference. If it had not been a women's conference, it would have given a far weightier treatment — no comments about gold cufflinks and Gucci moccasins for men.

The conference itself dealt with matters of national concern: taxation, employment, stimulus for industry — as well as having its lighter moments — and this needed proper emphasis.

We already contribute much through our jobs or our family life or both, and conferences such as these play a strategic role in encouraging us to take on the additional responsibility of active involvement in both national and local affairs; they are not just social occasions.

Come on, the Thunderer. You have a reputation for balanced reporting to keep. Don't let our feminine charms lead you to forget the more serious aspects of such occasions. Yours faithfully, BARBARA ASHFORD, Mayfield House, Derby Road, Haslemere, Surrey.

Quick off the mark

From Mr Donald Bir Sir, May I respectfully suggest to Mr William Brown of Caen, Abbas (July 17) that he has fitted the striker pin above the cyclistometer instead of below. This — I think — would explain the apparent backward motion. Yours faithfully, D. BIRT, Coppertops, Main Road, Old Dalby, Leicestershire.

Second-class citizens at the poly?

From the Rector of the Polytechnic of Central London

Sir, The resolution of Birkbeck's funding crisis prompts an examination of the funding comparisons for universities and polytechnics published by the Department of Education and Science. This indicates that in 1986/87, in order to support an evening student at Birkbeck College at a basic unit of funding of 0.75 relative to a full-time student, provides £2,295 per student per annum (plus £984 for research).

To provide the same type of degree course for evening students a few hundred yards away in this polytechnic, the 0.2 weighting provided under the National Advisory Body gives a basic unit of funding of £510 per annum per student (with nothing for research).

A polytechnic evening undergraduate takes up to five years to complete an honours degree, as against four years at Birkbeck. Comparing this five-year norm with the four-year norm at Birkbeck a "just treatment" would resource a polytechnic evening student at four-fifths of a Birkbeck student, which gives a weighting of 0.6 of a full-time student.

In one nation, why should the 1,000 students studying in the evenings for degrees and postgraduate qualifications at this polytechnic be so inadequately funded relative to their near neighbours? Why should these students be treated as the second-

class citizens of higher education?

Yours sincerely, TERENCE BURLIN, Rector, Polytechnic of Central London, 309 Regent Street, W1.

From Dr J. V. Pepper

Sir, The Chairman of the UGC (July 16) has now explained the UGC's method of resourcing part-time students' courses. I thought I would apply it to my own part-time students here.

They may obtain a degree in four years, an honours degree in five. So the weighting factors would be 0.75 and 0.6 respectively for each year's work, say about 0.7 overall, as the majority opt for non-honours when the course divides.

But, as the Secretary of the National Advisory Body told you a few weeks ago, I and my colleagues will have an allocation of only 0.4, or even 0.2 if we are foolish enough to offer the course on an evenings only basis. On the 0.4 basis, my students might be expected to take 7.5 years (day and evening) or 15 years (evenings only). Not even the weakest stay that long.

As for buildings, as opposed to staff allocations, it's 2/9 for the day students, and nothing for the evening people. It is true that the NAB Secretary also said that we could re-appportion the money, and so we could; but if the UGC can get it more right, why shouldn't he?

Yours etc, JON V. PEPPER, North East London Polytechnic, Department of Mathematics, Romford Road, E15.

Historic buildings

From Mr Andrew Selkirk

Sir, The House of Commons committee investigating historic buildings and ancient monuments has been very selective in its hearing of evidence. In particular it has ignored archaeological societies completely.

Yet the last 10 years have been disastrous for archaeological societies. Most have declined in numbers; their activities, particularly in excavating, have slumped disastrously and, indeed, judging by the calendar of excavations, it is now very difficult for anyone wishing to join a volunteer excavation to find one.

None of this appears to have got through to the committee. Although a number of local societies sent in submissions, none has been called upon to give oral evidence. Yet we are on the verge of a leisure revolution — we hope — when the potential contribution of volunteer archaeologists is simply enormous.

The current decline must be reversed. It is too late to hope that the committee will pay a little more attention to the amateurs and a little less to the official bodies, if it is to make a worthwhile contribution to preserving our past?

Yours faithfully, ANDREW SELKIRK (Editor, Current Archaeology), 9 Nassington Road, NW3.

Human rights law

From Mr M. L. S. Passey

Sir, Dr Jacouelli (feature, July 18) claims that a British Government might seek to deprive the citizen in certain situations of the better protection afforded by English law by invoking the inferior protection afforded by the terms of the European Convention.

Such tactics are ruled out by Article 60 of the convention, which states:

"Nothing in this Convention shall be construed as limiting or derogating from any of the human rights and fundamental freedoms which may be ensured under the laws of any High Contracting Party ..."

He also argues that British judges by background and temperament are less suited to interpreting Bills of Rights than foreign judges. Surely the remedy for this inadequacy would be for the Bar and Law Society to make the study of the European Convention (and European Community law) compulsory elements in the professional training of the lawyers of the future.

Yours faithfully, M. L. S. PASSEY, The University of Leeds, Faculty of Law, Leeds, West Yorkshire.

Invalid permits

From Mr D. S. Sargent

Sir, Mr S. Moss's letter (July 18) seems to have been written under a series of misapprehensions. The square badge for display on the windscreen is issued to the disabled person, not to the person who looks after him. It carries the disabled person's name and an expiry date. I see nothing to be gained from adding the doctor's name.

Perhaps Mr Moss is confusing the circular orange badge for the rear window, which has no force at all, with the windscreen badge? Yours faithfully, D. S. SARGENT, Dobbs Well, Eastrip Lane, Colerne, Chippenham, Wiltshire.

Connoisseurs' choice

From Mr John Carswell

Sir, I was glad to see that the bidders of today (sale room report, July 17) confirmed the judgement of Paris by putting Venus first, and particularly interested to notice that after all these years they revealed what Paris himself wisely kept dark, namely second, Juno — third, Athene. Yours etc, JOHN CARSWELL, 5 Prince Arthur Road, NW3.

A ROYAL DAY

"A princely wedding is a brilliant edition of a universal fact and, as such rivets mankind." Bagehot's insight was glimpsed at a time in the nineteenth century when, to many thoughtful observers, the monarchy must have seemed destined to enter upon a gradual decline in public esteem and importance. Princely weddings, they might have reasoned, would continue to attract more than their usual share of attention for some time, but their glitter would inevitably fade, their brilliance cease to rivet, and their significance become entirely private.

They would have been incredulous to be told that a princely wedding in the last quarter of the twentieth century would fascinate not only the populace of London and the nation, but also millions of people in the rest of the world; that many of these remote enthusiasts, though living happily in republics, would nonetheless employ the latest inventions of science to eavesdrop on a medieval display of royal pomp; that commercial enterprises, loyal to the cold rationality of profit, would pay the sincere tribute of high advertising rates in order to be associated with the feudal chivalry of the occasion; and that utopian radicals, denying the soul, would suddenly find it thrilling inconveniently to the jingle of spurs and the flash of steel.

Such a prophecy, seemingly

extravagant and paradoxical, is nonetheless confirmed by the jostling presence of the world's media at today's wedding of the Queen's second son, Prince Andrew, to Miss Sarah Ferguson. Some of the world's interest rests upon the personal qualities of the two young people about to marry. Prince Andrew showed in the Falklands conflict that he is a young man of bravery and dash. Miss Ferguson, thrust suddenly into the glare of klieg lights and unexpected fame, has revealed herself to be a level-headed and attractive young woman. A marriage between two such plainly likeable people would always warm the hearts of bystanders. But the princely character of the occasion is the larger explanation of the universal interest.

The character of the Monarchy's appeal is, of course, under constant subtle change. At the time of the Queen's accession, fears were expressed that the Monarchy was remote and confined in too narrow a social set. The Royal Family has since made its accommodation with the modern world of television and intrusiveness. When the couple approach the altar today, they will face — uniquely among wedding couples — a congregation in front of them via the cameras.

That accommodation has generally been managed without loss of the peculiar mixture

of majesty and restraint which has traditionally marked the British Monarchy. It has not lost its majesty like the cycling monarchs of Scandinavia who are, in effect, their countries' first civil servants. Nor does it exhibit a plutocratic enjoyment of mere wealth — though television, in covering events like the visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales to the United States, might sometimes suggest the opposite.

Its hallmark in everyday life has been elevated normality — the Royal Family has been, above all, a family — and its extravagance has been reserved for ceremonial state occasions like today's marriage. These occasions, moreover, belong to the nation as well as to the young couple, and so cement social unity rather than straining it.

All weddings, of course, blend private emotions with public ceremonial. Marriage is a sacrament which the bride and bridegroom administer to each other before God and a pledge to help each other face the troubles and difficulties which disturb every life and which may be particularly stressful in a royal one. But it is also a social occasion on which the two central figures announce their union to the family, their friends, the tax collector and the world — and receive in return good wishes for the future. We gladly wish Prince Andrew and his bride every happiness.

HOME THOUGHTS FROM RABAT

Mr Shimon Peres' decision to visit Morocco this week has been seen as a gambler's last throw. But it is hard to believe that he boarded his plane without a good idea of how the dice would fall.

Like almost everything else to come out of Jerusalem, this "imaginative initiative" (as Whitehall described it) must be viewed against the backdrop of domestic Israeli politics. With three months to go as Prime Minister Mr Peres is passing through a turbulent finale to what has otherwise been a period of solid achievement.

After two years in power he has brought down the national inflation rate from more than 400 per cent a year to around 26 per cent at the last count. This has been engineered partly by the application of public spending cuts — not usually best calculated to endear a prime minister to his hard-pressed people. But in Mr Peres' case his assault on wasteful state bureaucracy and, most of all, his determination in withdrawing Israeli troops from Lebanon, rewarded him three months ago with the highest opinion poll rating of any Israeli prime minister for a decade.

More recently the Shin Bet security scandal and the final showdown between Mr Peres and his troublesome justice minister, Mr Yitzhak Modai, have suggested that his term of office is ending with a bang, not a whimper. But the Prime Minister, who is due to hand over the reins of government to his deputy Mr Shamir in October under the terms of

their uneasy coalition, would seem to be intent that he should go out on a note of promise rather than despair.

The promise must sound rather vague. His host in Rabat, King Hassan, is in theory a perfect interlocutor. A moderate Arab leader with pro-Western sympathies, he is nonetheless chairman of the Arab League. Two years ago, moreover, he signed (to everyone's amazement) a treaty with Colonel Gaddafi. Rabat has ethnic links with Israel through the large number of Jews who live there. Add to that the fact that Morocco played a part in getting the Camp David peace process off the ground and the relevance of King Hassan to the Arab-Israeli issue would seem to be undisputed.

Reaction to the Peres mission has been fairly predictable, with condemnation from radical Arab states like Libya and Syria and approval from moderate leaders — most notably President Mubarak. With West Bank opinion neatly divided, the only real surprise has been the strength of feeling in Damascus. For President Assad to sever relations with Hassan on the basis of a single visit, before the results are discernible let alone clear, would seem indeed to be a diplomatic blunder.

Apart from the depth of this Syrian antipathy, Mr Peres must have been less than surprised by the reaction of other countries. American advice is said to have been sought beforehand and it would be astonishing if soundings had not been made else-

where. Mr Peres' objective remains peace negotiations with King Hussein of Jordan and moderate Palestinians, leading to a "land for peace" agreement in the Middle East. Is King Hassan the man to get this process going?

The answer to that might become clearer after Mr Peres' return to Jerusalem today. The Israeli Prime Minister sees the pursuit of a settlement as the last big task in front of him. There can be little chance that Mr Shamir and his confederates from the right-wing Likud will open up similar initiatives with equal zeal. The concept of giving land for peace is indeed foreign to them.

For Mr Peres it might be enough to get the process going. Even that is unlikely to happen as a result of this single dash to Rabat. But this could be the first in a series of meetings which would commit Israel to the kind of process Mr Peres seeks. While Mr Shamir might be ill-disposed towards it, he would find it politically more difficult to extricate the coalition government from a series of meetings already begun, than to escape involvement in the first place. If Mr Peres can start the machine, it might take some effort to stop it. That effort, moreover, might have to be made in the teeth of American opposition.

Mr Peres' flight to Rabat may indeed represent a throw of the dice by a premier with little time left. But if he has loaded them correctly he could well win a high enough score to keep him firmly in business until Israel's next elections.

PRIDE IN DEFEAT

The Government has put in six years' hard political labour in the municipal salt mines. It has tinkered with formulae, set targets, cut the grant proportion, rate-capped, re-cycled, close-ended. Local government finance has consumed umpteen hours of Cabinet and ministerial time, alienating backbenchers, creating unnecessary tensions between central and local levels of democratic representation. And to what purpose?

Mr Ridley, the latest toiler at the face, announced it yesterday. Aggregate current expenditure by councils in England has not shrank nor been reduced. It has grown, since 1981, by 38 per cent in cash terms, 7 per cent in real terms. The Government could have left in place the system as it was in 1980 and arrived today at virtually the same point, minus the aggravation and the sheer waste of time and energy.

Mr Ridley has recognized that reality. Indeed a phrase current in the minister's entourage is "real realism". This involves accepting that councils are now spending well in excess of White Paper plans, that there is no way of reducing the amount, and adjusting the plans accordingly. Councils' current budgeted

expenditure (9 per cent above plan) is being carried forward into 1987-88 in real terms. Mr Ridley's predecessors have all forgiven such overspending grudgingly and belatedly. Mr Ridley has forgiven it in advance. Behind his statement may be pure politics — clearing the decks for spring 1987. But the result is a cleaner profile for expenditure accounting than for several years.

A price has had to be paid. The Contingency Reserve has been raided. The Government's line yesterday was that a large part of the Reserve has in previous years been earmarked for local authority overspending; this year such sum is merely being transferred to the local authority allocation. That doctrine makes a nonsense of the idea of a Contingency Reserve. It shows how corrupting the Treasury's battle with local authorities has been.

Between them the Environment Department and the Treasury have concocted a package that ought, barring accident, to free the Government from a 1987 outcry about rates or other distractions on the local front. But again, the cost of political peace is worth noting.

For the past five years the Government has cut the

proportion of local spending covered by Exchequer grants. The result has been to shift some part of the tax burden from income to property; rate-payers now bear a greater share of the cost of local services.

That process had beneficial side effects. It helped in the education of consumers about the cost of services; it was arguably fair for domestic property that was increasing in value to carry a greater tax burden (though the Government has waited too long to shield industrial property). Now, suddenly, with no good reasons stated, the transfer is said to have gone too far, become inequitable.

There are other quirks in the package. But the mechanics are on this occasion less important than the rhetoric. This RSG settlement represents a great defeat for the Government; it is lessened only a little by the promises of a grand reform of local finance still to come. The style of the moment is for ministers to praise their spending records on social services and educational provision. Their newfound pride rests to some considerable extent on expenditure by councils that has, until now, consistently been labelled as excessive and uncontrolled.

Benn will back Kinnock until election victory

By Nicholas Wood, Political Reporter

The threat of a hard-left challenge to Mr Neil Kinnock's increasingly moderate leadership of the Labour Party receded last night as Mr Tony Benn urged his followers to make an election victory their top priority.

But he made clear that he was urging a slackening of hostilities, not a surrender in the party's internal policy wrangles.

With Mr Kinnock in Downing Street, the battle for unbridled socialism would be renewed afresh, bolstered by an influx of new MPs committed to sweeping changes.

Mr Benn, still the standard bearer of the far left, outlined the new strategy at a meeting in Hampstead, north London, called to launch Labour Left Liaison, an umbrella group linking 33 militant MPs with various radical groups.

He said: "Millions of people desperately want to see this Government defeated and the left must see that what we say and do helps and does not hinder that possibility."

"The left should always avoid personality politics like the plague and have no heroes and no scapegoats, and remember that success will only come when a strong and united movement can be built up."

Policy goals included overturning legal curbs on trade unions, withdrawal from Northern Ireland, and an end to British membership of Nato.

Mr Benn added: "We should not be surprised or discouraged by the fact that many of the policies necessary to achieve all this will not, on present indications, feature in Labour's next manifesto."

"We must campaign publicly for these policies now. We must also campaign vigorously for them when Labour is next in power, recognizing that the election of a Labour government will both banish fear and raise expectations, thus releasing energy which can be channelled into implementation of these policies, especially as the crisis we shall inherit will demand radical solutions that go far beyond what is likely to be in our manifesto."

"That is why the election of a Labour government is so important and must be our first priority."

Mr Benn's prescription appeared to be at odds with that advanced by Mr Eric Heffer, member for Liverpool, Walton, at the same meeting. He castigated party leaders seeking to win power by stealth and fudging issues.

Being there... come rain, hail or shine



Miss Christine Heron and her mother, Ruth, in The Mall yesterday (Photograph: David Miller). Standing room only outside Westminster Abbey.

By David Sapsted

They would see more on television, of course, but being there was all that mattered for the thousands already lining the royal wedding route last night.

Hundreds jostled for the prime positions outside Westminster Abbey; hardened campaigners opted for favourite spots along The Mall; and milling tourists looked on, bemused by the daffness of the Brits with their scruffy sleeping bags, bulging plastic bags and inexhaustible *bonhomie* in the face of threatening rain clouds.

And then there were the Union Jacks... the ones on the hats, the scarves, the cloaks and even the camiknickers.

The police were there, too, cajoling the throng outside Buckingham Palace and attempting to prevent visitors wrapped up in wedding fever from falling foul of London's traffic.

"Really, we're just there to make sure people enjoy themselves and to ensure nothing goes amiss," a Scotland Yard spokesman said.

Buildings along the mile-and-a-half route have already been checked and today, police marksmen will peer down from roofs in an attempt to counter any terrorist threat.

Most of the buildings along The Mall and Whitehall are government-owned and do not provide the police with the security headache that went with the long haul to St Paul's on the Prince of Wales's wedding day five years ago.

The only folk evident on rooftops yesterday were the ubiquitous cameramen.

Inside the Abbey, ladders and scaffolding rose in ungainly profusion amid the towers of flowers.

Near by, the rules were being waived in St James's Park with the Royal Parks police admitting they were turning a blind eye to the overnight campers.

Nobody wanted to spoil the party.

Flights of fancy at the Palace

Continued from page 1

was going on, but she did not have a temper.

Asked how much she was hurt by criticism of her figure or her clothes, Sarah said: "At the beginning I made the mistake of taking it in and reading it; now I don't. It doesn't bother me anymore. And also, I don't want to change at all. I am quite happy with myself." She scorned the suggestion that she was on a diet.

In a separate interview with the Press Association released yesterday she expanded on the theme of the womanly figure: "A woman should have a firm waist, a good 'up top', and enough down the bottom, but not too big."

On television, she said she dressed "dully" for Andrew, and the bride's eye cornered her admitting she had been raided her wardrobe and thrown away the outfits she did not like. Fortunately, she had agreed with his choice.

The interviewers, Sue Lawley and Andrew Gardner, fishing hopelessly for some titbit about the wedding despite her reticence. "All I will say is, there will never be a dress-a-match it," Miss Ferguson said. "Fighting talk," the Prince interjected.

They agreed that they laughed a lot, and often reduced each other to stitches in private, but in public had managed to avoid dissolving in giggles. A shot at the end of the film showed them sitting on the sea wall at Portland, with Andrew playfully smacking her on the cheek. "Oh God, don't fall off the wall," he gasped as his bride-to-be disappeared behind him.

Asked where they would live after their marriage, the Prince said it would be Buckingham Palace for the moment. "Sarah is quite happy to live with the mother-in-law." They would, however, be looking for a house near Portland, although they would happily live anywhere in the country.

"Anywhere in the country except Gloucestershire. It's overcrowded," the Prince said. Liberation of the royals and Purple Prose, page 16. Leading article, page 17.

Ridley moves to keep rate increases down

Continued from page 1

end of grant recycling meant a massive windfall for the Treasury, which would be lost to local government spending.

Mr Ridley replied that Dr Cunningham was wrong on all counts, adding that he had never heard a more "incompetent piece of analysis".

Mr John Heddle, Conservative member for Staffordshire Mid and chairman of the backbench environment committee welcomed the settlement, saying it would comfort ratepayers and firms in "cash-happy" councils.

It also drew guarded approval from Mr Simon Hughes, the Liberal local government spokesman.

The 47 rebel Liverpool councillors, who were disqualified from office and ordered to pay a £106,103 surcharge for delaying setting a rate last year, will have to wait to find out if their appeal has been successful.

After a nine-day hearing, three Court of Appeal judges, led by Lord Justice Lawton, said they would take time to consider the application to overturn a ruling that they were guilty of willful misconduct.

Parliament, page 4

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements
The wedding of Prince Andrew and Miss Sarah Ferguson at Westminster Abbey, 11.30.
The Duke of Edinburgh, President of the Commonwealth Games Federation, attends a reception, Royal College of Surgeons, Nicholson St, Edinburgh, 7.

Exhibitions in progress
Portrait drawings by Wilhelm Hensel; McAlpine Gallery, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford; Tues to Sat 10 to 4, Sun 2 to 4 (ends Aug 24).
20th century drawings; Octagon Gallery, Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge; Tues to Sat 2 to 5, Sun 2.15 to 5 (ends September 28).
Work by James McIntosh Patrick; Aberdeen Art Gallery (ends Aug 1); East German Graphics (ends Aug 16); Aberdeen Art Gallery, Schoolhill; Mon to Sat 10 to 5; Thurs 10 to 7, Sun 2 to 5.

Jill, Lucy and Max Marschner; Usher Art Gallery, Lindum Rd, Lincoln; Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30, Sun 2.30 to 5 (ends Aug 17).
Recent paintings by Noel Monks; City Museum and Art Gallery, Derby; Tues to Sat 10 to 5 (ends Aug 23).

Music
Minehead and Exmoor Arts Festival; Concert by the Festival Orchestra; St George's, Dunster, 8.
Gower Festival; Harp recital by Caryl Thomas; Rhessiili Church, 8.
Chester Summer Music Festival; Recital by the London Serpent Trio; Church of St John The Baptist, 1.10. Recital by Paul Tortelier (cello) and Maria de la Pau (piano); Chester Cathedral, 8.
Llandudno Organ Festival; Organ recital by Roger Fisher; Church of the Holy Trinity, Llandudno, 7.45.
Concert by the Philharmonia Orchestra with Dame Gwyneth Jones (soprano), John Wallace (trumpet), the Dunvant Male Choir and the Cymbach Male Choir; St David's Hall, Cardiff, 7.30.
Organ recital by Richard Shepperson; Norwich Cathedral, 8.
Organ recital by Philip Sawyer; St Andrew and St George, George St, Edinburgh, 1.
Organ recital by Simon Clarkson; St Mary's Cathedral, Palmerston Pl, Edinburgh, 8.
Organ recital by Christopher Brayne; Canterbury Cathedral, 8.

Talk
Shining Levels: John Wyatt's story of a man who went back to nature; Lake District Park Visitor Centre, Breckhole, Windermere, 1.30.
The Great Weston Air Days; sea front, Weston-super-Mare; today and tomorrow from 11 am.
Stewards Chemist's Shop; display and reconstruction of 1900 chemists shop; City Museum and Art Gallery, Worcester, 2 to 5.

Books - hardback

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:
Collins Guide to Cathedrals, Abbeys and Priories in England and Wales, by Henry Thorold Collins, £25.
Godwin's Political Justice, by Mark Philip (Duckworth, £28).
Greece and Rome, The Epic of Western Civilization, edited by Michael Grant (Thames & Hudson, £20).
Orientations, Collected Writings by Pierre Boulez (Faber, £25).
St Hugh's, One Hundred Years of Women's Education in Oxford, edited by Penny Griffin (Macmillan, £17.50).
Social Change and the Labouring Poor, Antwerp 1770-1860, by Catharina Liu (Vale, £18.50).
The Bondage of Love, A Life of Mrs Samuel Taylor Coleridge (Gollancz, £15.95).
The New Oxford Book of Australian Verse, chosen by Les A. Murray (Oxford, £12.95).
Weber and the Marxist World, by Johannes Weiss, translated by Elizabeth King-Utz and Michael J. King (Routledge & Kegan Paul, £25). PH

Road closures

Severe traffic congestion is expected in central London today on the occasion of the wedding of Prince Andrew with Miss Sarah Ferguson at Westminster Abbey. A number of roads will be closed to traffic and additional no parking restrictions will apply including the suspension of parking meters. Motorists are advised to travel by public transport.

From 8.30 am to 1 pm the following roads will be closed to traffic within an area bounded by Grosvenor Gardens, Grosvenor Place, Grosvenor Gardens, Grosvenor Place, Hyde Park Corner, Piccadilly, Piccadilly Circus, Strand, Chancery Lane, Victoria St, Whitehall, Admiralty Arch, Grosvenor Gardens, Grosvenor Place, Victoria St, Whitehall, Admiralty Arch, Grosvenor Gardens, Grosvenor Place, Victoria St, Whitehall, Admiralty Arch.

From 2.30 pm until approximately 4.30 pm the following roads will be closed to all traffic: Buckingham Palace, Grosvenor Gardens, Grosvenor Place, Victoria St, Whitehall, Admiralty Arch, Grosvenor Gardens, Grosvenor Place, Victoria St, Whitehall, Admiralty Arch.

From 3.30 pm until approximately 4.30 pm the following roads will be closed to all traffic: Grosvenor Gardens, Grosvenor Place, Victoria St, Whitehall, Admiralty Arch, Grosvenor Gardens, Grosvenor Place, Victoria St, Whitehall, Admiralty Arch.

From 3.30 pm until approximately 4.30 pm the following roads will be closed to all traffic: Grosvenor Gardens, Grosvenor Place, Victoria St, Whitehall, Admiralty Arch, Grosvenor Gardens, Grosvenor Place, Victoria St, Whitehall, Admiralty Arch.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 17,105

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32

Press cuttings

Access to over six million press cuttings offering contemporary reporting and analysis of a broad spectrum of international affairs is now available at the British Library Newspaper Library.

The cuttings, compiled from British and overseas newspapers, and donated by the Royal Institute of International Affairs, offer comprehensive subject access to 40 years of the 20th century. The Chairman House Press Library Collection 1939-69 is the largest single collection in the gift. For further details contact The British Library Newspaper Library, Colindale Avenue, London, NW9 5E; Tel: 01-200 5515.

Wedding stamps

A set of stamps to celebrate the wedding of Prince Andrew and Miss Sarah Ferguson are now available at all post offices. The 12p and 17p stamps, issued by the Post Office, were designed by Jeffrey Matthews. The photograph used on both stamp values was chosen by Buckingham Palace.

The pound

Bank	Sale	Bank	Sale
Australia S	2.46	2.21	
Austria Sch	23.20	22.10	
Belgium F	63.12	62.32	
Canada F	2.135	2.034	
Denmark Kr	12.44	11.73	
Finland Mk	10.89	10.14	
France F	227.81	218.50	
Germany Dm	3.33	3.13	
Greece Dr	217.20	203.00	
Japan Yen	245.00	231.00	
Italy Lit	1,177	1,057	
Japan Yen	227.81	218.50	
Netherlands Gld	3.725	3.585	
Norway Kr	11.61	11.01	
Portugal Esc	202.48	191.50	
Spain Ptas	211.00	200.00	
Switzerland Fr	16.82	16.25	
USA \$	1.652	1.485	
Yugoslavia Dnr	640.00	580.00	

ACROSS

- 1 An Identikit label? (4-4).
- 5 Like the number at the beginning or end of a race (6).
- 9 Revolutionary peer's son on his feet a long time in this (8).
- 10 Gloomy resort, Lemnos (6).
- 12 Predator recognized in Troy (5).
- 13 Prayer adapted to the ear of Lord (3,6).
- 14 Dog finds soldier on heap of stones (5,7).
- 18 First trip takes girl messenger a long time (6,6).
- 21 Mature but very hesitant breaker of the marriage bed (9).
- 23 The islanders are naturally friendly here (5).
- 24 Jointed football team (6).
- 25 Sir Joseph Porter was office boy to one (8).
- 26 On late? A new temp is not liable (6).
- 27 Scorpion-grass - a name to remember (8).

DOWN

- 1 Hunter's puzzling variation of theme (6).
- 2 Tempest, for example, enveloping N Sea painting (6).

Concise Crossword page 8

Weather

A depression over the North Sea will move SE into the continent and a showery airstream will cover the British Isles.

6 am to midnight

London, SE, central S, central N England, Midlands, Channel islands: Bright or sunny intervals and isolated showers; wind NW light, occasionally moderate; max temp 18C (64F).

East Angles, E England: Bright or sunny intervals and scattered showers; wind NW moderate; max temp 17C (63F).

SW England, S Wales: Bright or sunny intervals, isolated showers at first, more cloudy later; wind NW light or moderate; max temp 18C (64F), but cooler on coasts.

N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland: Bright or sunny intervals and isolated showers, becoming cloudy by evening with rain in places; wind NW light or moderate; max temp 17C (63F), but cooler on coasts.

NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney: Bright or sunny intervals and scattered showers, becoming heavy, becoming more isolated later; wind NW moderate or fresh, occasionally strong, decreasing light or moderate; max temp 16C (61F).

Argyll, NW Scotland, Northern Ireland: Bright or sunny intervals and isolated showers at first, becoming heavy and showers; wind NW moderate, occasionally fresh, backing W light; max temp 16C (61F).

Shetland: Sunny intervals and isolated showers; wind NE light or moderate, back NW; max temp 12C (54F).

Breakback for tomorrow and Friday: Breakback with outbreaks of rain in W districts will spread to remaining areas tomorrow.

Sun rises: 5.11 am Sun sets: 8.03 pm
Moon rises: 7.19 am Moon sets: 10.37 pm
Last quarter: July 28

Lighting-up time

London 9.23 pm to 4.42 am
Bristol 9.42 pm to 4.52 am
Edinburgh 10.07 pm to 4.32 am
Glasgow 10.50 pm to 5.10 am
Penzance 8.48 pm to 5.10 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday, in Celsius (C), Fahrenheit (F), rain (R), sun (S), cloud (C).
Belfast C 14.57 F 58.22 R 1.0 S 0.0 C 0.0
Birmingham C 17.83 F 64.09 R 0.0 S 0.0 C 0.0
Blackpool C 14.57 F 58.22 R 1.0 S 0.0 C 0.0
Bristol C 17.83 F 64.09 R 0.0 S 0.0 C 0.0
Cardiff C 15.66 F 60.19 R 0.0 S 0.0 C 0.0
Edinburgh C 11.67 F 53.01 R 0.0 S 0.0 C 0.0
Glasgow C 14.57 F 58.22 R 1.0 S 0.0 C 0.0

Floral display

A floral display in honour of the wedding of Prince Andrew and Miss Sarah Ferguson can be seen today at the Trocadero centre in London's Piccadilly Circus.

The exhibition, a display of flower arrangements by professional florists from around the country on the theme of the royal wedding, has been organised jointly by the Royal Horticultural Society and the Trocadero. It is open to the public from 10 am to midnight today and tomorrow.

Abroad

Algeria C 26.78 F 80.20 R 0.0 S 0.0 C 0.0
Austria C 23.90 F 75.02 R 0.0 S 0.0 C 0.0
Belgium C 23.90 F 75.02 R 0.0 S 0.0 C 0.0
Bulgaria C 23.90 F 75.02 R 0.0 S 0.0 C 0.0
Canada C 23.90 F 75.02 R 0.0 S 0.0 C 0.0
Czechoslovakia C 23.90 F 75.02 R 0.0 S 0.0 C 0.0
Denmark C 23.90 F 75.02 R 0.0 S 0.0 C 0.0
France C 23.90 F 75.02 R 0.0 S 0.0 C 0.0
Germany C 23.90 F 75.02 R 0.0 S 0.0 C 0.0
Greece C 23.90 F 75.02 R 0.0 S 0.0 C 0.0
Hong Kong C 23.90 F 75.02 R 0.0 S 0.0 C 0.0
India C 23.90 F 75.02 R 0.0 S 0.0 C 0.0
Italy C 23.90 F 75.02 R 0.0 S 0.0 C 0.0
Japan C 23.90 F 75.02 R 0.0 S 0.0 C 0.0
Korea C 23.90 F 75.02 R 0.0 S 0.0 C 0.0
Malaysia C 23.90 F 75.02 R 0.0 S 0.0 C 0.0
Mexico C 23.90 F 75.02 R 0.0 S 0.0 C 0.0
Netherlands C 23.90 F 75.02 R 0.0 S 0.0 C 0.0
New Zealand C 23.90 F 75.02 R 0.0 S 0.0 C 0.0
Norway C 23.90 F 75.02 R 0.0 S 0.0 C 0.0
Poland C 23.90 F 75.02 R 0.0 S 0.0 C 0.0
Portugal C 23.90 F 75.02 R 0.0 S 0.0 C 0.0
Spain C 23.90 F 75.02 R 0.0 S 0.0 C 0.0
Sweden C 23.90 F 75.02 R 0.0 S 0.0 C 0.0
Switzerland C 23.90 F 75.02 R 0.0 S 0.0 C 0.0
Taiwan C 23.90 F 75.02 R 0.0 S 0.0 C 0.0
Thailand C 23.90 F 75.02 R 0.0 S 0.0 C 0.0
USA C 23.90 F 75.02 R 0.0 S 0.0 C 0.0
USSR C 23.90 F 75.02 R 0.0 S 0.0 C 0.0
West Indies C 23.90 F 75.02 R 0.0 S 0.0 C 0.0
Yugoslavia C 23.90 F 75.02 R 0.0 S 0.0 C 0.0

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

Dixons man to Comet

AH soars

88m launch

Listing sought

Guinness role

Data trial

Granfield post

STOCK MARKETS

INTEREST RATES

CURRENCIES

WALL STREET

Table with columns for various companies and their stock prices, including AMR, ASA, Allied Signal, etc.

Courtaulds reports better results in problem areas

Courtaulds is benefiting from lower energy costs, Sir Christopher Hogg, chairman, told the annual meeting yesterday.

COMPANY NEWS

Trading profit 1,019 (1,214). Net interest received 3 (36). WHITBREAD: Mr Timothy Colman is retiring as a non-executive director owing to other business commitments.

AAH's adopted baby brings a year of joy

Few acquisitions can have come off so well as AAH Holdings' £15 million purchase of Vestric, the pharmaceutical supplier, from Glaxo last year.

Vestric has made AAH Britain's leading pharmaceutical wholesaler, and the distribution of pills and potions is now the company's largest profit-earner by a long chalk.

Pharmaceuticals accounted for 48.5 per cent of trading profits in the year to March 31 against 34.5 per cent for fuel distribution.

On the fuel distribution side, profits were just 4 per cent higher at £7.8 million, even after the cold spell towards the end of the financial year.

AAH's other activities provide little to excite. Builders' supplies have suffered with the rest of the trade while there were small increases in the profit contributions from road haulage and environmental services.

Mr Bill Pybus, the chairman, is looking for takeover targets again although he would be hard pushed to find another one as good as Vestric.

High street trading had been less buoyant than expected and business in some significant overseas markets had suffered from lower oil prices, but the overall effect had been one of continued improvement.

MARKING NAMES: Dividends payable in Canada and the US on or after July 9 and up to and including July 15 are valued at 45.50p per Canadian dollar and 63.60p per US dollar.

ROHAN GROUP: Rebau Plastics has acquired a five-acre site on the Langley Business Park in Slough, Berks, from Rohan Developments.

CONSULTANTS (COMPUTER & FINANCIAL): Six months to June 30. Interim 0.7p (0.2p). Group turnover £4,597,596 (£1,357,997).

GORING KERR: Six months to March 31. Interim 3.85p (3.5p), pay Sept 1. Figs in £000. Turnover 3,773 (3,793).

CANADIAN PRICES table with columns for various Canadian companies and their prices.

APPOINTMENTS

Gomme Holdings: Mr Rodney F Hall and Mr J Richard Gawthorne have been named non-executive directors of the company formed for the management buyout.

BASE LENDING RATES table with columns for various banks and their rates.

AAH HOLDINGS plc Preliminary Results. Pretax profits and earnings per share at record levels. FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS table. Bill Pybus, Chairman.

350 years on, and still making history. The Post Office Annual Report and Accounts. The Post Office handled a record number of inland letters and productivity was at its highest ever level in 1985/86.

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, including 'Flood', 'ner', 'LONDON FINA', 'EXTRACTION', 'LO'.

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Main table of Unit Trust Information Service, listing various funds, their performance metrics (Bid, Offer, Weekly Change, Yield), and categories like UK Growth, UK Income, and International.

UNLISTED SECURITIES

Table of Unlisted Securities, listing company names, prices, and changes.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table of Investment Trusts, listing various trusts, their prices, and changes.

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

Table of Financial Trusts, listing various trusts, their prices, and changes.

Large advertisement on the right side of the page, featuring the text 'Hedged Gold' and 'FINANCIAL TRUSTS' with various financial data and graphics.

A SPECIAL REPORT ON
ITALIAN BANKING

FOCUS

Prosperity
despite
profligacy

The inclusion of Bettino Craxi at Madame Tussauds was welcomed in the Italian press. Here, at last, after Sophia Loren, was an Italian who, thanks to three years as Prime Minister, appeared to have made a firm and lasting impression abroad.

Alas, like the wax in the effigy, the impression quickly melted. No sooner was the statue ready than the Craxi coalition fell.

The event was a reminder of the feeling of insecurity that, in the Italian financial world, too, is never far below the surface.

The Bank of Italy ran into this last winter, when all seemed set fair for the economy, thanks to falls in the price of oil, the value of the dollar, inflation and domestic interest rates. But, as the governor, Signor Carlo Azeglio Ciampi, told the bank's annual meeting: "Business sentiment changed abruptly in the last week of November. A foreign exchange crisis broke out, which lasted for 30 trading days from then until the middle of January and proved to be one of the most serious of recent years."

Its cost was \$5.3 billion out of foreign-exchange reserves, a tem-

peratures so far indicate that the target will be exceeded.

The economy is prospering despite government profligacy and the persistence of above-average interest rates. The Treasury expects the increase in gross domestic product, 2.3 per cent in 1985, to go up to 3.5 per cent this year, although other authorities are less optimistic.

Inflation, which came down to single figures in 1985 for the first time in 13 years, is projected by the Treasury to reach five per cent this year and four per cent next.

The fall in oil prices has brought a windfall to the economy, put at 15,000 to 20,000 billion lire, that will be reflected in the balance of payments.

The financial sector is also on the move, but a note of uncertainty has been injected by the rapid spread of financial services, known in Italian as parabanking.

A research study presented to a symposium in Venice on parabanking organized by Banca Nazionale del Lavoro, the country's biggest bank, found that Italy was late in entering the field, but is now making up lost ground. In factoring, turnover in 1985 was greater than in any other European country, including Britain, and second only to the U.S. In leasing, Italy was third in Europe in 1984, behind Britain and France but ahead of West Germany.

The personal savings rate, the highest in Europe, has found an outlet in mushrooming unit trusts and consequent spectacular rises on the stock exchange. Opinions are heard that more attention is likely to be paid in future to investment trusts (closed-ended funds), Anglo-Saxon-style pension funds, and mortgage finance for housing.

Increased competition in the insurance market should result from government authorization in July to Lloyd's of London to operate openly.

Legal structures have not kept pace with the financial revolution. Bills have yet to be approved by parliament on factoring, venture capital and merchant banking.



The financial district of Milan, still the economic powerhouse of Italy

The Venice meeting was told that the leading leasing houses have themselves drawn up a self-regulatory code for their sector.

Traditional banks, which have prospered in the successive ages of gold money and paper money, are facing a challenge in the transition to what Signor Guido Carli, a former governor of the Bank of Italy, describes as "immaterial money".

They find that as deposits from the public grow more slowly, they are criticized, not only for high lending rates, but for failing to modernize their mentality. As a speaker at Venice said, while private firms have invested in innovation, banks continue to invest in palazzi or property.

Many bigger banks deny being hide-bound, pointing to associations and subsidiaries that they have formed in parabanking services. Banking efficiency should be stimulated by part-privatization moves under way in the large, publicly owned sector. Banca Nazionale del Lavoro, for example, is to offer 49 per cent of its capital on the market to private investors.

However, the authorities are disturbed to see indications of industrialists and firms buying

control over banks. It has been policy to try to keep banking and industry apart since close links between the two threatened the collapse of several leading banks in the early 1930s, in the wake of the world depression.

Italian capitalists are on a buying spree as never before. Recent examples abroad have been Fiat's entry (alongside United Technologies) into Westland, takeovers by Signor Carlo de Benedetti of the French car-components maker Valeo and of Triumph-Adler in West Germany.

Montedison's purchase of control over the Swedish pharmaceuticals company Fermenta and the moves by Ferruzzi to win control of Berisford.

Altogether, Italian entrepreneurs are estimated to have controlling or substantial holdings in 680 firms abroad, with 232,000 employees and turnover of 33,000 billion lire (£14.5 billion).

It would be incorrect to describe the risks facing the banking system

as unprecedented, for well in advance of the Sindona and Calvi crashes — which would no longer be possible under recent legislation — there were major banking failures in the 1890s and after the First World War.

The shock waves of the world depression led to the Banking Act of 1936, still at the basis of the system. The central bank has been given wide powers of supervision and control. These include authorization for the establishment of new banks and for the opening of new branches. For new branches of existing banks, Signor Ciampi promises a policy of increasing liberalization.

On the other hand, many new financial services are outside the net of supervision or regulation, including some taking money subscribed to the public. Many financial organizations are linked to leading banks of known reputations but others are managed by individuals who may be unscrupulous or simply inexperienced.

There have been cases of property funds collapsing without reimbursement for subscribers. It is in the area of unregulated financial services that the risk may lie

John Earle

A rough ride but
the British
are persevering

FOREIGN BANKS

A large notice above plastic sheeting shrouding a five-floor building under renovation in Milan's Via Moscova proclaims this to be the new headquarters for the Barclays group in Italy.

This is one way of giving the lie to any suggestion that, after a shock loss last year of 52 billion lire (£22.6 million), the most intimately involved of British banks in Italy is considering pulling out. Besides having banking branches in Milan, Rome and Bologna, Barclays has subsidiaries offering a range of merchant banking and financial services which, it says, occupy 13 locations in Milan alone.

The intention is to concentrate most of these in the new building, rented on a long lease. It hopes to be back in profit in two years.

Meanwhile, Barclays is undertaking a drastic reorganization, dropping smaller clients in favour of what it calls "the high end of the market", both in individuals and companies. It is also cutting staff. In May it abruptly announced the dismissal of 165, or nearly half those working at its Milan banking branch, the first mass sacking in Italian banking.

In the face of strong union opposition, however, it withdrew the notices and has since been quietly slimming, in agreement with the unions, by placing employees with other banks and offering inducements such as early retirement inducements.

Barclays provides the most striking example of the difficulties that, to a greater or lesser degree, have affected many of the more than 30 foreign banks in Italy.

Lacking a retail base, most have drawn their funds from the inter-bank market, and were able to enjoy a spread of around four points in the 1970s, when all banks were subjected to strict lending ceilings in relation to their deposits. But that margin disappeared when the ceiling was abolished and competition heated up. Losses have not been uncommon in recent years.

However, many foreign commercial banks, including the big names in London, think that Italy is too important a market to be neglected.

Besides Barclays, managers

from Lloyds, Midland, Standard Chartered and Hongkong Bank all stressed their faith in the future of the economy and in the resultant opportunities for their services.

Standard Chartered, which opened its Milan branch in 1973, reported what it describes as reasonable profits for the first 10 years, then ran into losses between 1983 and 1985. It took corrective action, closing a second branch, in Padua and setting up a finance subsidiary in Milan concentrating on the domestic capital market.

For the Hongkong Bank, whose Milan branch opened in October 1982, foreign trade financing is a major activity, particularly to the Far East, but also to the Middle East (the British Bank of the Middle East is a subsidiary) and Europe. It sees itself well-placed to benefit from the expansion on the horizon in business with China.

Midland arrived last year in Milan branch opened only in January, after several years of hesitation over taking the plunge. It stands out in having an Italian manager, who was formerly on the foreign side of Banca Commerciale Italiana, the second biggest domestic bank.

One of the few to cater for the small private account holder is Creditwest, a joint venture between Credito Italiano (50.14 per cent) and National Westminster (31 per cent), with the rest spread

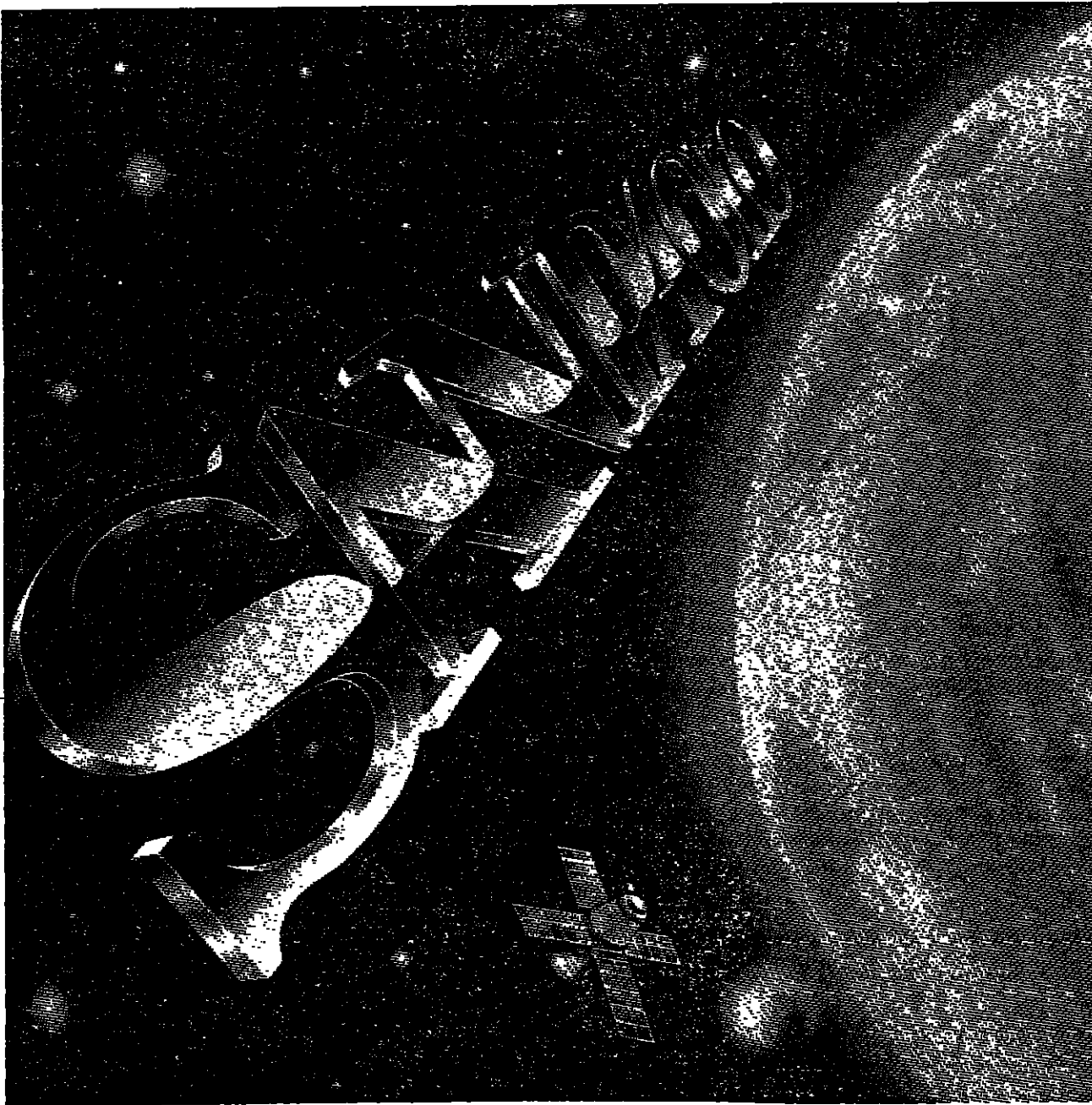
Well-placed for
the China factor

among 5,000 shareholders. In 1972 Credito Italiano, one of the big state-owned banks, bought nearly 82 per cent of a small private Milanese bank and looked for a junior partner. NatWest says it took this opportunity to enter Italy, at a time when it was not so easy as now to obtain Bank of Italy authorization to set up on one's own.

Creditwest is a normal Italian commercial bank, with five branches in Milan and one in Rome (permission has recently been granted by the Bank of Italy for a second Rome branch). NatWest says Creditwest has consistently made a profit and has been one of its most successful joint ventures anywhere.

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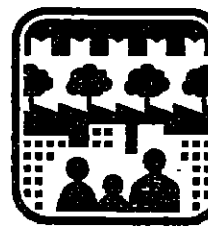
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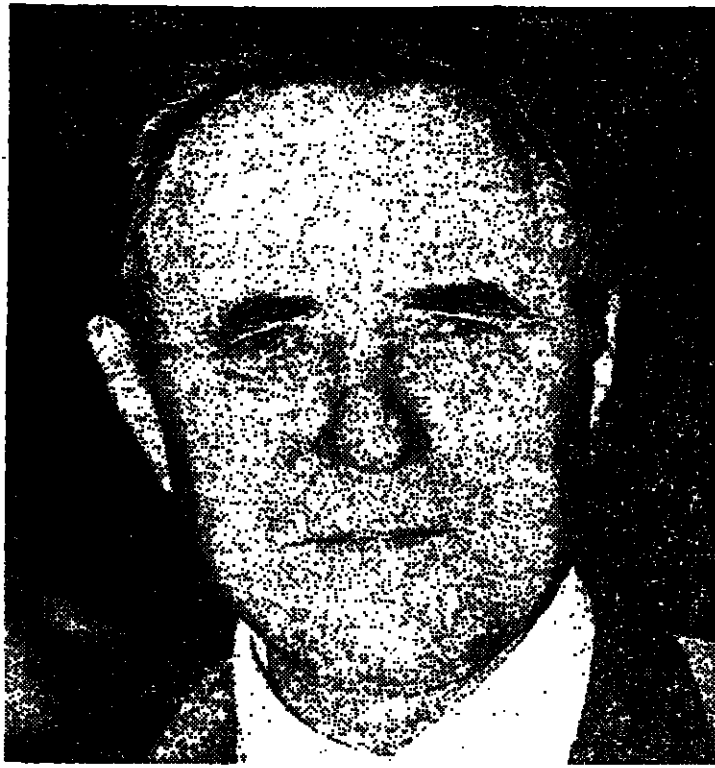
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ITALIA

Slow progress in international monetary coordination worries the central bank as Italian attitudes towards the financial system undergo fundamental change

CARLO CIAMPI

Italy, in the uncharitable phrase of a domestic commentator, is more a country of Sindonias and Calvis than of Rothschilds or Warburgs.



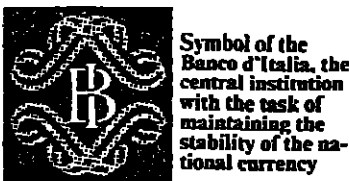
Carlo Ciampi: Appointed Bank of Italy governor at a difficult time

The slow struggle towards victory

Such events add to the burden of the Bank of Italy in its tasks of maintaining the stability of the currency and exercising supervision over the banking system.

freewheel to a freak 19 per cent depreciation against the dollar on the "Black Friday" of July 19, 1985, on the eve of a planned devaluation.

The bank's role has been defined by successive laws since its establishment as a joint stock company in 1893.



Symbol of the Banco d'Italia, the central institution with the task of maintaining the stability of the national currency

the central bank can tailor its purchases of treasury bills to its objectives for credit expansion.

Internationally, Italy has gained status since the Tokyo summit in May decided to involve it and Canada in the monetary deliberations of the Group of Five.

Both Ciampi and Dini are worried by the slow progress in translating into practice the objectives proclaimed by the leading powers towards monetary and economic co-ordination.

To those who criticize the retention of capital controls, Signor Ciampi recalls that the European Community has allowed Italy to maintain them until the end of 1978.

Italy's situation is still considered fragile, above all because of excessive government spending, but Signor Ciampi promises continuing slow and prudent progress towards liberalization.

However, the position of the Vatican Bank under Archbishop Paul Marcinkus, involved in the Calvi collapse, remains unchanged.

The Bank of Italy has completed technical preparations for a new or heavy lira, equivalent to 1,000 of today.

UNIT TRUSTS

Italian mutual funds (unit trusts), which have helped fuel one of the longest bull runs in living memory on Milan's stock exchange, have become a catalyst for change in Italy's increasingly advanced financial system.

Though the boom on the stock exchange appears to have run its course, it is clear that the funds, which by the end of June commanded 52,570 billion lire (about £23 billion) of invested assets, are here to stay.

The funds, which first opened for business only two years ago, owe their extraordinary success to a combination of factors, not least the fact that profits are exempt from any form of capital-gains tax.

Their launch, after years of procrastination by the government and initial opposition by the powerful banking lobby, was able to benefit immediately from a thrifty public anxious to find a tax-efficient alternative to piling their savings in bank deposits and treasury bills.

The creation of the funds also coincided with and helped to contribute to an 18-month boom on the Milan stock exchange which saw share prices rise dramatically before it ran out of steam at the end of May.

Milan's star-performing stock exchange, which owed its success at least as much to a sharp recovery in company profits as to demand from the funds, has been the delight of the fund managers, who have been able to secure spectacular returns for their clients.

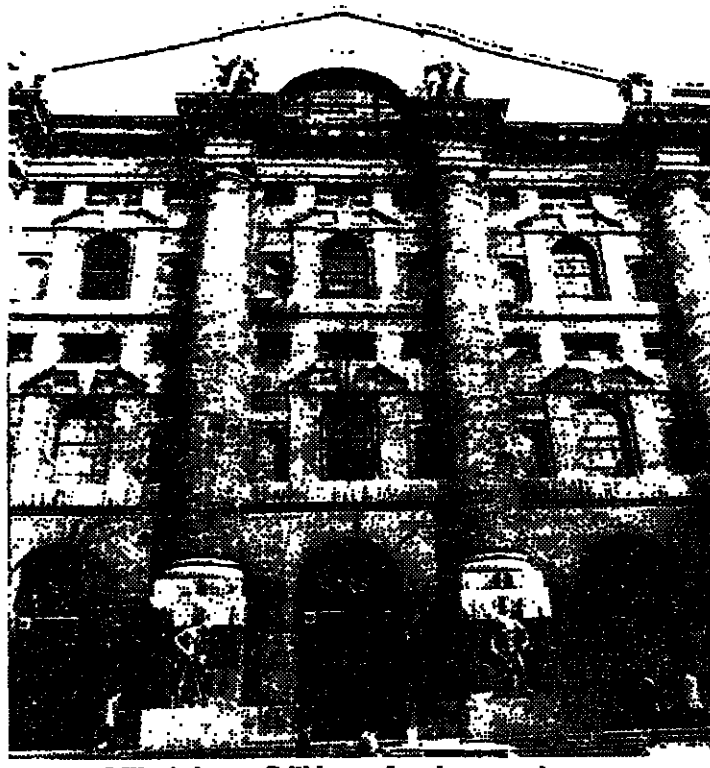
A unit acquired on June 30, 1985 in one of the share funds, which invest exclusively in stocks and shares, would by the end of last month have earned its owner a return of just over 60 per cent.

As it is, about 60 per cent of the funds' assets are invested in Italian treasury bills and long-term certificates and this proportion could grow if subscriptions continue to flood in from investors.

Despite a succession of major cash calls on shareholders by leading Italian companies and a series of new listings on the stock exchange, supply has not managed to keep pace with demand.

However, analysts believe its popularity is destined to grow when investors start to realize that the share and balanced funds will be lucky to go on earning the rates of return they have achieved over the past 18 months.

Figures released in early July by the mutual funds association suggest that the rate of growth is



Milan's bors: Still busy after the recent boom

Stars of a bullish stock exchange

finally slowing down. Some observers believe this may even be salutary.

Giuseppe Santorsola, a lecturer at Italy's top business school, the Luigi Bocconi University in Milan, said: "It would be positively dangerous for the funds to go on expanding so rapidly because Italy's financial markets do not have the capacity to absorb all the money."

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the central bank is in no mind to put public subscription of Italy's huge government debt at risk by allowing unlimited investment abroad by the trusts.

One predictable side-effect of the funds' growth has been a sharp fall in the growth rate of bank deposits. Carlo Ciampi, governor of the Bank of Italy, said in his annual report at the end of May that bank deposits had grown at an annualized rate of only 3.9 per cent over the first four months of this year, compared with 16.7 per cent over the same period for 1985.

Not surprisingly, the banks, after initially resisting the introduction of the funds, have become their main promoters and now control nearly all the 55 funds on the market.

"The whole concept of banking is changing in Italy," Signor Santorsola says. "Customers spend less time haggling with the bank manager over the interest rate offered on their deposit account but want to know more about the other fund-managing services he has to offer."

A special correspondent

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Table with 3 columns: 1985 ACCOUNTS, Lit. BN, Variation over 1984. Rows include Due to customers, Mortgage bonds and debentures, Net worth and allowances for possible credit losses, Total sources of funds, Loans and advances to customers, Security holdings, Net income for the year.



The MPS Banking Group is composed of Monte dei Paschi di Siena, Banca Toscana, Credito Commerciale, Credito Lombardo and Italian International Bank P.L.C. The total sources of funds at year end 1985 amounted to approximately Lit. 51,000 billion, the net worth was Lit. 4,535 billion.

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ITALIAN BANKING/3

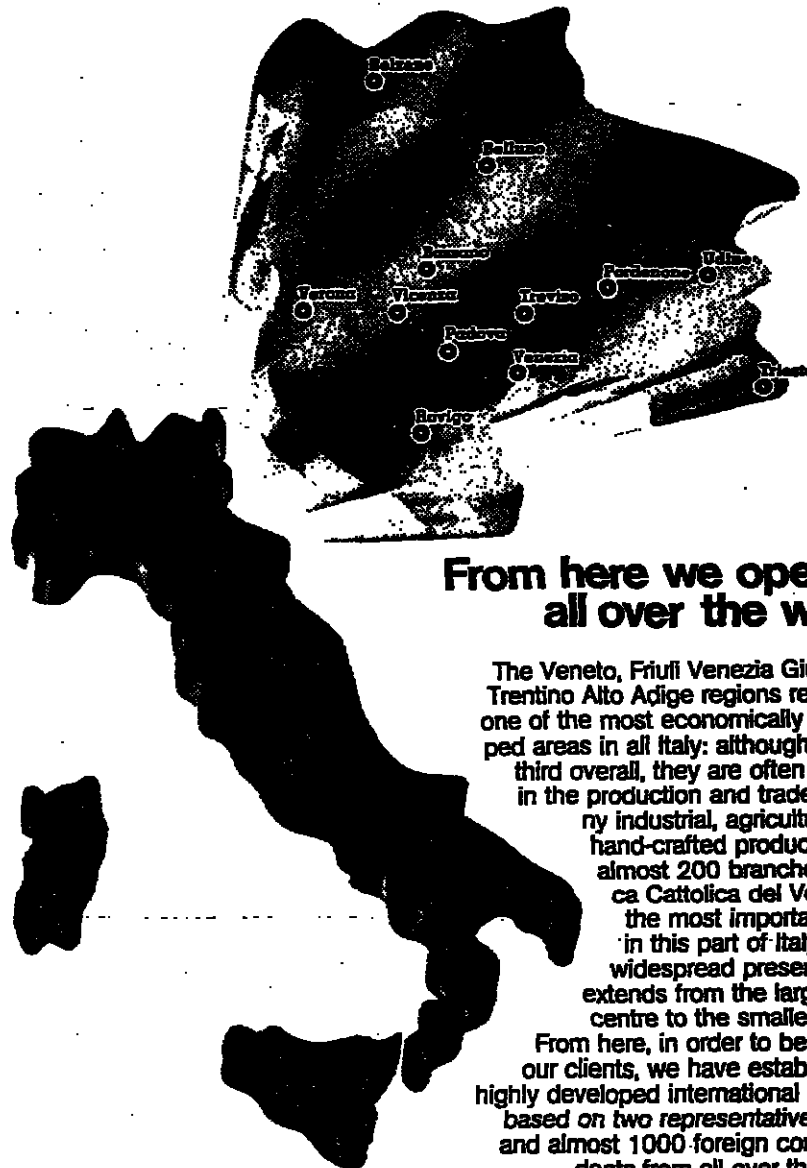
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Traders in Taranto, southern Italy: Credit cards are seldom used in a country that has usually preferred to deal in cash.

RETAIL BANKING

After years of complacency, Italy's banks are trying to broaden their range of retail services. But they are finding that one of the biggest challenges is to convince a public with a strong preference for cash transactions that modern banking offers practical alternatives. Talk of the advent of a "cashless society" rings rather hollow in a country where the use of credit cards and even cheques lags far behind other west European countries. Only two million credit cards are in circulation in Italy, compared with six times that number in France. Figures released recently by the Italian Banking Association showed that 71.7 per cent of tax receipts, 67.5 per cent of insurance premiums and 65.7 per cent of rents on property are still paid in cash. Banks have also found, occasionally much to their cost, that in their haste to innovate they have sometimes introduced products with inadequate preparation and scant regard for modern methods of market research. The chequered career of Italy's ambitious cash-dispenser system, Bancomat, is one such example. Launched with much fanfare two years ago as the first cash dispenser network involving all the major banks in a single country, Bancomat became a source of derision after a gang of ingenious criminals cracked the system and made huge illicit withdrawals. Italy's press scornfully dubbed the service "sbancomat", which translates loosely as

How to win cash dealers to plastic

"bankruptomat", and public confidence in the dispensers slumped. The thieves had exposed a fatal flaw in Bancomat. The system was not "on line", meaning that withdrawals made through cash dispensers were not electronically debited from a customer's account immediately but only after a delay of two or three days. All the thieves had to do was to discover the secret code used by individual clients to enter the system, which they did by placing infra-red television cameras in vans parked in front of dispensers. Then, by drawing on information obtained from print-outs discarded by customers after they had made withdrawals from Bancomat dispensers, they made numerous copies of magnetic cards used by clients, which then enabled them systematically to ransack the system. The banks soon realized what was going on and suspended use of the dispensers at weekends and after office hours, when the network was at its most vulnerable to theft. This also meant Bancomat was unusable at times when customers were most likely to need it for cash. The banks are now pinning their hopes on a revival of the service when an "on-line" system, which they hope will be burglar-proof, is introduced throughout the country later this year. Critics of the system say that banks have indiscriminately handed out Bancomat cards to their customers without making a serious effort to find out whether they all had any use for them. Bank analysts estimate that fewer than a quarter of the four million dispenser cards in circulation are used with any regularity. Meanwhile, a new dimension is shortly to be added to the Bancomat card when a pilot "point of sale" scheme "goes live" in Milan, Rome and several other big Italian cities this summer. In Milan, the first Italian city to launch the experiment, Bancomat holders will be able to use the cards to make purchases in 70 retail outlets scattered throughout the city centre. Italy's leading banks have also finally clubbed together to launch a new national credit card, called "Cartasi", giving Italians a home-grown alternative to American Express, Visa and other foreign credit and charge cards which until now have had the field almost entirely to themselves. Cartasi already has a client base numbering 300,000 users since it was formed by merging two other credit cards, one of them offered by one of Italy's biggest commercial banks,

Banca Commerciale Italiana, and the other by Credito Italiano, together with a group of savings banks (*casse di risparmio*). All the leading banks have now agreed to offer the card to their customers. Cartasi will be a credit card offering similar facilities to Visa, although the Italian promoters claim that it will offer more competitive terms. However, some bankers are sceptical about whether the card will ever really catch on in a country where retail network is still dominated by small shopkeepers with a preference for being paid in cash. It is not uncommon in Italy for shopkeepers, on production by a customer of a credit card, to offer a discount on condition that payment is made in cash or by cheque. Italians tend to consider credit cards more a symbol of creditworthiness and status than a practical tool for making purchases. Despite difficulties with Bancomat and uncertainties over Cartasi, there have been improvements in some of the basic services offered by banks in recent years. Perhaps the most striking has been in one of the simplest operations, that of cashing a cheque, traditionally one of Italy's more nerve-racking experiences. It is now possible to do this in most major banks in a single operation. This means having to queue just once, whereas formerly one had to hand in the cheque to a bank clerk and then join a second queue to collect the money from a cashier.

A special correspondent

Lacking muscle, but masters of the Ecu

EUROMARKETS

Italy has an economy roughly the same size as Britain's, is a founder member of the European Community and likes to claim that it invented modern banking. Certainly, the word bank is derived from the Italian word for a bench on which money lenders sat, and the bankers of Lombardy gave their name to a well-known street in the City of London. However, Italian banks have made little impact on the European scene and their activity in the Euromarkets - bankers' jargon for lending in international securities and currencies which have no national home - is smaller than their background might suggest. A glance at the 1985 league tables of managers and book runners (those who arrange the issue and make a price in it) for Eurobonds and syndicated loans shows that Italian banks did not figure at all among the top 50 houses in these markets. Only in the technical area of lending in European Currency Units (Ecu) have Italian banks carved out a niche for themselves. There are signs, however, that the recent reorganization of the Italian financial system, largely at the behest of the Bank of Italy, the central bank, may be tempting Italian banks more into the international arena. The historically determined parochial character of Italian banking is breaking down. It is important to distinguish between different kinds of international banking. Italian banks are heavily engaged in trade financing both for major Italian companies such as Olivetti, Fiat and Montedison, which are active globally, and for the host of smaller manufacturers of fashion or furniture which are the mainstay of employment and prosperity in many parts of the country. The Luxembourg subsidiaries of Italian banks do quite a lot of trade financing backed by guarantees from the Italian export credit agency. Where Italian banks are very much less active is in the highly complex but huge Euromarkets consisting basically of bonds and syndicated loans. New Eurobond issues, for example, have been running in recent years at an annual rate of \$150 billion (£100 billion). Italian banks have been constrained from moving into the Euromarkets with the same force as their British, French and German

rivals by three main factors. The first is the fragmented structure of the national financial system. By European, although not American, standards Italy is well provided with banks. But until a few years ago only 15 of them were allowed to operate throughout the country. Most banks were restricted to a particular area, where they built up a strong local presence. So Banca Nazionale del Lavoro, the country's biggest commercial bank, was allowed to make loans anywhere in Italy, while Credito Emiliano, a substantial regional bank, had to obtain permission from the central bank to lend outside the northern and central regions. Second, this inhibition not only stopped banks from growing to the size necessary to compete in the heavily capitalized Euromarkets. It also severely restricted innovation because it restricted competition. Bankers safe in their own patch were disinclined to risk operating in a fast moving Euromarket dominated initially by Anglo-Saxons. A significant portion of Italian banking is also owned by the state. This sector has not been helped by the Italian Treasury, which, in order to finance the country's huge public sector deficit, issued

bonds with very favourable tax concessions. This drained savings and inhibited the growth of deposit bases adequate for international competition. Third, there were other central bank restrictions. The most important was exchange controls. Evading exchange controls is a national hobby in Italy, as periodic scandals on the Swiss border and the sorry episode of the Banco Ambrosiano show. For banks, however, nothing can cramp their international style more than tight exchange controls. Ironically, the Euromarket originated essentially as a way of creating an international pool of capital outside national exchange controls. The cause - and some would argue the effect - of exchange controls was the chronically weak lira. Any Italian bank moving into the international arena faced serious currency exposure. Many of these controls are being lifted. The Italian authorities have allowed around 100 banks to operate nationwide, merchant banking, which has been the driving force behind the Euromarkets, is encouraged, and some 40 foreign banks have been allowed to open branches in Italy. Italian bankers admit that the influx of foreigners

has greatly stimulated their own ideas about the business. The problem of exchange controls is the key to understanding the attraction to Italian banks of the Ecu. As an artificial currency consisting of a basket of national currencies, the Ecu offers the maximum exchange rate stability against the tempestuous lira. It also carries political connotations of being good Europeans, which appeals to the Italian authorities. However, much of the Ecu business done by Italian banks is to finance domestic entities. In 1984, for example, the Ecu 450 million (£670 million) "maxiloan" for Ente Nazionale Idrocarburi (ENI), the giant Italian energy company, included among its lead

Banca Commerciale Italiana and Istituto Bancario San Paolo, di Torino, it is also among the top 20 lead managers of loans to Italy. The converse, however, is that 17 of these top 20 are foreign banks. In many other developed countries the lead managers would be predominantly domestic banks - Italian banks simply do not have the financial muscle and expertise always to compete with major American, French, British, German and, increasingly, Japanese rivals. The other side of the coin is borrowing. Italian banks are well-represented among Italian issuers of Eurobonds. Among these banks over the past three years are Banco di Napoli, Banco di Roma, Banca Nazionale del Lavoro, Banca Nazionale del Credito, Istituto Nazionale dell'Agricoltura, Italian International Bank, Banca Commerciale Italiana, Banco di Santo Spirito (the Vatican Bank), and Credito Italiano. Several Italian banks have in addition raised Euroloans. It will be some years before Italian banks take their place in the Euromarkets, and their success will largely depend on domestic developments, particularly liberalization of exchange controls and other banking restrictions.

Michael Prest

Allowed to make loans anywhere

Only in the technical area of lending in European Currency Units (Ecu) have Italian banks carved out a niche for themselves. There are signs, however, that the recent reorganization of the Italian financial system, largely at the behest of the Bank of Italy, the central bank, may be tempting Italian banks more into the international arena. The historically determined parochial character of Italian banking is breaking down. It is important to distinguish between different kinds of international banking. Italian banks are heavily engaged in trade financing both for major Italian companies such as Olivetti, Fiat and Montedison, which are active globally, and for the host of smaller manufacturers of fashion or furniture which are the mainstay of employment and prosperity in many parts of the country. The Luxembourg subsidiaries of Italian banks do quite a lot of trade financing backed by guarantees from the Italian export credit agency. Where Italian banks are very much less active is in the highly complex but huge Euromarkets consisting basically of bonds and syndicated loans. New Eurobond issues, for example, have been running in recent years at an annual rate of \$150 billion (£100 billion). Italian banks have been constrained from moving into the Euromarkets with the same force as their British, French and German

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Would you enjoy a busy, international environment and plenty of excitement in a dynamic young team? If so, this leading management consultancy will appreciate your commitment and enthusiasm. Working mainly for a Senior Director you will be producing presentations, reports and graphs for clients, organising travel, hotel and theatre bookings and providing general secretarial back-up. Skills of 100/65/W.P., education to 'A' level standard and commercial experience necessary. Age 24-30. Smart offices in W.1.

Please ring 434 4512.

Crone Corkill RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

PERSONAL ASSISTANT to General Director (Arts)

Applicants are invited for the post of Personal Assistant to Nicholas Snowman, the General Director (Arts) at the South Bank Centre.

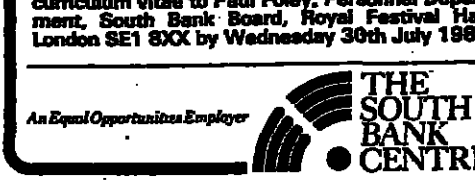
The Centre is one of Europe's largest arts complexes and incorporates the world famous Royal Festival Hall.

Applicants should possess highly developed secretarial skills including shorthand and audio together with some administrative experience. A working knowledge of languages, particularly French, is desirable, plus an appreciation of the arts generally, especially music.

The General Director's office is a busy one and applicants should have the ability to work under pressure in an organised manner and to respond to constantly changing demands. A flexible approach to working hours is essential.

Salary scale £9,710 - £11,170 inclusive of London Weightings, according to experience and qualifications. Benefits include a non-contributory pension scheme, subsidised meals and 22 days holiday.

If you are interested, please submit a copy of your curriculum vitae to Paul Foley, Personnel Department, South Bank Centre, Festival Hall, London SE1 8XK by Wednesday 30th July 1986.



01-584 9033 TM 01-584 8931
THE INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAL RECRUITMENT SERVICE LIMITED LONDON W1

TRAVEL TO EUROPE £14-15,000

We are looking for a young dynamic secretary/PA to join a small, high powered banking team in the City who deal with business in Europe. You need excellent secretarial skills and experience, initiative and ideally fluency in 1 or 2 European languages. In return you have an opportunity to get involved, use your organisational skills and travel abroad. Speeds 90/60. Age 22-27.

PERFECT P.A. - W.E. £11,000

Our client, a successful and charming businessman in a busy young company in the West End, is looking for a P.A. to organise his varied business dealings which include property and P.R. You need the poise and confidence to handle problems on your own and deal with people at all levels as well as excellent secretarial skills. Speeds 100/60. Age early 20's.

Please call us for an interview until 6.30pm.

A DISTINCTLY FINE SUMMER!

GET FRESH! £10,000

Promote yourself into an exciting PR environment. This Covent Garden Secretarial position will suit a well educated, confident person who appreciates a hectic life. Ref: 552/28026

THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT! £10,000

The circus in this case is Piccadilly, where a Law firm's Senior Partner can't perform personally without a dependable Audio Secretary who wants a high flying role. Ref: 551/27023

POSITIVE! £10,000

Ambition equals a positive attitude, and when combined with excellent skills makes for the perfect Secretary/PA. You're sure to be noticed as there's plenty of client contact. Ref: 552/28038

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Lots of great TEMP assignments too... either short or long term to suit your needs... at the highest rates in town for skilled SECRETARIES, SHORTHAND, AUDIO, COPY TYPISTS AND WPs.

PHONE OR CALL IN NOW!

19/23 Oxford St. W1 Tel: 437 5630
131/133 Cannon St. EC4 Tel: 636 8315
185 Victoria St. SW1 Tel: 828 3645
22 Wornwood St. EC2 Tel: 638 3646

Challoners

20's? BANKING OPPORTUNITIES to £10,000

There are 3 openings for secretaries in their early-mid 20's with a major City merchant bank. You have sound shorthand skills of 90+, and are happy with a heavy typing load and more than 1 boss. Cheap mortgage etc.

WEST ONE £10,000

You are adaptable and have word processing and shorthand skills. As secretary to the Special Advisor you will enjoy an informal team environment.

INITIATIVE £9,500-£11,000

You can use your initiative as secretary to the Senior Manager of an expanding City bank. Shorthand and WP skills essential - a legal background would be useful. Subsidised mortgage etc.

HIGH ENERGY £10-£11,000

Enjoy the pleasant City courtyard complex with sports facilities as a secretary with this large merchant bank. You need to be mid 20's with good shorthand to work in their Energy or Corporate Finance department. Mortgage subsidy etc.

City 577 6600 West End 439 7001

Secretaries Plus

Fast Motoring £10,000

A major UK plc, with an international name in car component manufacture, seeks a high-flying PA/Secretary to co-ordinate the lives of two divisional MDs. Both men are achievers and delegators. You will thus work at senior level, much of the time on your own initiative, handling a rich diversity of social and admin responsibilities. Good skills (90/60) and experience are essential. Age 24+. Please telephone 01-493 5787.

GORDON-YATES

Admin PA/Sec £10,000 plus

Exceptional opening for a skilled admin/sec with fluent French. The company handles advertising sales for some of the top names in European periodical publishing. Approx 70% admin content includes worldwide liaison, preparation of advertising agency presentations and account controlling. You should have excellent English (mother-tongue level) and good typing. Age probably 30+. Please telephone 01-493 5787.

GORDON-YATES

PERSONAL ASSISTANT Westminster

An opportunity here exists for a motivated, intelligent and personable secretary to assist our Managing Director with Company Marketing and Corporate Planning. There will be plenty of scope for initiative and you will need to be a team player. You will be expected to work long hours and to be available for out of office hours. You will have a working knowledge of the use of a word processing computer. You will have a working knowledge of the use of a word processing computer. You will have a working knowledge of the use of a word processing computer.

Shirley Edson, Personnel Department, Municipal Medical Insurance Ltd, 297 Old Queen Street, Westminster, LONDON SW1W 8JH.

We are an equal opportunity employer.

PA/SECRETARY £11,000 + Benefits

Director, main Board of a major group with prestigious H.O. building near St. James's Park requires an efficient, capable and well presented PA/Secretary.

Excellent references required.

Please contact:
Mrs. M. McLintock
01-828 6842

BILINGUAL PA SECRETARY (FRENCH) £11,000 RICHMOND

As one of the leading computer leasing companies and part of one of the world's largest banks we are seeking a first class secretary to join our newly formed UK operation based in Richmond. As PA to the French Managing Director you will have an excellent knowledge of French (both written and spoken), good secretarial skills including WP, and previous experience at Director level.

Please apply in your own handwriting enclosing detailed CV to:

Linda Ewington
E.C.S International UK Ltd
500 Chesham House
150 Regents Street
London W1R 5FA
Tel: 01-439 6288

THE CITY UNIVERSITY BUSINESS SCHOOL

Two prestigious posts have become available at the Business School which is located at our Barbican premises:

Personal Assistant to the Dean of the School to provide executive secretarial support to the Dean and ensure the smooth running of the office. Excellent secretarial skills are essential as well as a flexible, diplomatic approach and the ability to deal readily with personnel at all levels.

Conferences & Press Officer (For three years in the first instance). This is a new post which would suit an energetic self starter and an important part of the job will be promoting and organising the invitation Lecture activities of the School. The ability to type is a necessity as well as a knowledge of setting up a computerized data base using word processing equipment.

Both posts will provide cover for the other during absence. Applicants will probably be graduates and will be aged 25+.

The salaries for both posts are on a scale up to £11,000 approximately. Benefits will include recreational facilities, season ticket loan scheme, a generous holiday entitlement.

For further information and an application form, please write to Ms Jane Casson, Personnel Recruitment Assistant, The City University, Northampton Square, London, EC1V 0HB, or telephone 01-250 1107 (24 hour answering service).

Closing date for receipt of applications 6 August 1986.

STEP AWAY FROM SECRETARIAL £9,500

Our Hammermith based clients who are an International Computer Company have two openings for Word Processing Trainers. No experience is necessary as a full and thorough training will be given. If you are 25 or over, have good communicative skills and a knowledge of typing please forward a detailed Curriculum Vitae to:

Seekers Employment Services
168 Putney High Street
London SW15
Or alternatively telephone
01-789 8292

PUBLIC RELATIONS £12,000

A successful and fast growing PR consultancy needs an up-standing PA/Secretary (with good skills including W/P) for their Chairman.

The right person will be a superb organizer, self motivated, aged 25-35, with good working knowledge of the Communist/Civil/PR world. In addition to involvement with top level clients, there will also be interesting projects to handle concerning the Chairman's diverse private interests ranging from art to sport.

If you are considering a career move and feel you match this brief specification, please us in confidence for an initial discussion on 01-493 6566.

THE GROSVENOR Bureau

THE HARLEY MEDICAL GROUP SENIOR RECEPTIONIST £8,000+ p.a.

A prestigious cosmetic surgical clinic requires an exceptional receptionist. The ideal candidate should be well-presented, poised and confident as the initial contact with patients is paramount in maintaining the Clinic's professional standing. She should have a sympathetic and reassuring manner as it is important to allay patients' anxieties. If you possess these qualities please call:

Alison Steenson on 631 5494.

Elizabeth Hunt

GET INTO BANKING £11,000

Banking experience not essential as secretary to the chief executive of this major City based investment bank. Your role is to provide excellent PA support, co-ordinate meetings and travel schedules and liaise on his behalf. Excellent benefits include mortgage subsidy. 90/55 skills needed.

NO SHORTHAND to £11,000

Join this famous name City professional company as secretary to a divisional managing director. This is a very varied position from organising social events to setting up meetings in the UK and overseas. You'll have your own junior secretary and will enjoy a true PA role. 60 wpm audio ability is needed and a senior level background.

Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants
23 College Hill London EC4 0J240 3551

Elizabeth Hunt

GREEN PARK £9,500

A famous name international manufacturing and marketing company seeks a secretary to the head of group public relations. Organise and attend seminars and conferences, liaise with the press and media and supervise junior members of staff. Benefits include 5 weeks holiday and free lunch. 90/50 skills and WP ability needed.

DESIGN FOR LIVING to £12,000

A very successful firm of interior designers seeks a personal assistant to a senior executive. You will find this position is 70% administrative as you handle research projects and organise business and social events from start to finish. A director level background and 60 wpm typing needed.

Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants
2-3 Bedford Street London WC2 0J240 3511

CAROLINE KING

DIRECTOR'S SECRETARY £11,000 + PERKS

He is responsible for acquisitions for this international holding company and you will get fully involved in all his projects. This is a new position and there is a lot of contact with executive director level. Benefits include free lunch and sports and social club. 100/60 skills.

MAYFAIR REAL ESTATE £10,000

An excellent opportunity for a career secretary to learn how multi-million £ property deals are put together. This young director needs someone with a good business brain, the desire to learn and the ability to work well under pressure. Skills 100/80 + WP. Age 20+.

Please telephone: 01-499 8070
48 Old Bond Street London W.1.

P.A. IN THE COUNTRY

This is a marvellous opportunity to enjoy top P.A./secretarial position in the heart of the countryside. The busy Managing Director of a large company based in Devon, Devonshire urgently needs help. You will have good administrative skills as well as shorthand 90 and typing 60 and will enjoy the challenge of assisting your boss in the day to day running of the company. Age 30+. Salary up to £5,000.

Tel: 01-499 0092; 493 5907

Senior Secretaries

INTERNATIONAL LIAISON £12,000

This large worldwide firm are looking for a personal assistant for their liaison partner. He handles all contacts between their overseas companies and associates and assists with their recruitment in the UK. It is just as much your job as his! Travels extensively and needs everything to run smoothly. You will be expected to run a car driver service. Skills 90/90 + German helpful. Paid overtime + good occupational ability required. Age 24-40.

Tel 01-499 0092

Senior Secretaries

EXPERIENCED SECRETARY

Required by Gascogne-Fees at their busy Wimbledon office. Applicants must be of smart appearance, well spoken and enjoy working in a busy enthusiastic office environment. Accurate audio/copy typing, a pleasant telephone manner and good standard of education is required. Age 19-25 years. Salary see. Apply for an application form to:

Nicola Mason on Weybridge (0982) 57811.

HARD WORKING SECRETARY/PA WITH PERSONALITY FOR TRAVEL COMPANY

Would you like to be involved and help organise tours and research them out? If so, then Grey Green Tours, N16 may have something to offer you. We are looking for an enthusiastic and personable Secretary/PA to the MD with full secretarial skills, good telephone voice and willing to learn WP. A real opportunity, salary £7,500 p.a.

For further details and interview please telephone
01-800 8010

DAVIS SECRETARIAL RECRUITMENT LIMITED

PROPERTY/INTERNATIONAL HOLDINGS £10,000+
South London City with international interests is looking for a good PA to help run their London office. Extremely varied and interesting position. 30 90, typ 60. Age 25+.

£13,000
Having international merchant bank work a PA. Must be able to type and have confidence, please personally. Good 40/tp. Age 24+.

MICRO COMPUTER OPERATOR
Selfishly W1 Chartered Accountants are looking for a good micro-computer operator (2nd level) with a working knowledge of accounting, preparation of intergroup statements and bookkeeping.

DESIGN
This well known design company is looking for a PA to work for the head of their product studio. A varied position with lots to do and meetings with boss and staff in the month running of the studio. 30 90, typ 50.

Interested candidates should contact Sarah Sheppard on 01-734 6652.
13-14 Dean Street, London W1P 5AH

Personal Assistant to the Administrative Secretary

Salary up to £11,250 p.a.

A great deal more than 'traditional' duties; emphasis on this new post is laid upon committee work, people and the acquisition and use of IT skills. Applicants are likely to be intelligent, outgoing looking and receptive to change; experience in the education world would be helpful. Small friendly office in the heart of Bloomsbury.

Further details and application form are available from Veronica Minards, University of London Computer Centre, 20 Gullford Street, London WC1N 1DZ. 01-405 3400.

CONFERENCE CAREER £9,500
Organising, arranging, confiding, proving admin/sec skills (80wpm typ) leading organisers offer leading to co-ordinate media/conference/journalist/personal conferences in UK & EUR. Age 21+. Call Nikki Fraser 483 8611

TV CURRENT AFFAIRS £10,000
If you have a keen interest in CURRENT AFFAIRS arena covers then join our editor and provide research/report and become 'night-and-day' in the ever changing field. Plenty of variety and challenge. Age 22-26. A and 90/50wpm. Call Sandy Dwyer 483 8611

CONSUMER PR £9,000
Useful extra for one (80wpm/WP) who is prepared to work hard and learn PR business - after 2 yrs this consultancy issues Account Executive movement. Agency, sharp communicator and dedication. Age 21+. Call Joanna Evans 465 8611.

EDITORIAL PA £10,000
Publishing career - EDITORIAL assisting powerful Chief Exec of international House; read manuscripts, vet proposals, editorial research & author liaison. Publishing exp. expected to cope. 50/tp needed. Call Miro Foster 483 8611

ALBANY APPOINTMENTS
5 NERINE STREET, LONDON W1N 9AB. TELEPHONE 01-493 3011

LIVELY PRESENTABLE SECRETARY

Required for a property development company to work for a team of 3 surveyors in our prestigious Mayfair offices.

Age 20+ with good audio (shorthand useful but not essential), 2nd jobber would be considered.

Salary: up to 22,000 p.a. + staff discount.

Please telephone:-
John Finlay on 01-409 2322
Dixons Commercial Properties Ltd (Part of the Dixons Group plc)

SOUTH BANK CENTRE EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

INTERVIEW £14,000

SECRETARY RECEPTIONIST

DICTIONARY CLASSIFIED

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TUESDAY

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SOUTH KENSINGTON MARKETING DESIGN/PROMOTIONS COMPANY EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT - TOP SALARY

Successful marketing/design company is forming new sales promotion division. The Marketing Director of this new division requires an executive assistant with the personality and expertise to handle a wide variety of tasks. Naturally, some experience in the field of promotions, brochures or sales promotion would be an advantage, but is not essential. What is essential is total involvement and commitment to the new venture prospects. Candidates should be 25+, well presented, confident, energetic and should have first class secretarial skills, although an important part of the administrative role. Highly demanding but enjoyable work in a friendly atmosphere. The position is likely to be of interest to those currently earning in excess of £10,000.

Apply in confidence enclosing CV to:
Nigel Sweeney & Partners
7th Floor, 100 Wardour Street
South Kensington, London SW7 3HG
Tel: 01-225 2281

MULTILINGUAL SERVICES

Recruitment Consultants

French truly bi-lingual PA (27-35) with excellent shorthand in both English and French. £25,000 + banking perks.
GERMAN Bi-lingual secretary (25-40) with excellent shorthand in both languages. £25,000 + banking perks.
JAPANESE assistant with Japanese of mother tongue standard and some book-keeping with experience for training firm in the City. £7,000 + bank.
FRENCH/GERMAN receptionist/secretary with fluent French, relevant experience (Mouché) and good typing for City bank. £7,000-£8,000 ann.

01 836 3794
22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0HR

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EARNING £11,000 PA?

An experienced secretary who will be responsible for all personal matters, ensuring essential services are provided for this busy office, and will have the ability to undertake certain accounting projects (including petty cash and cheque payments) and some staff supervision. A realistic salary is offered and conditions of employment include a non-contributory pension scheme.

Applications to: Mrs L.M. Ladds, 47 Brunswick Place, London N1 6EE, marked Private & Confidential.

01-499 8070
CAROLINE KING SECRETARIAL APPOINTMENTS

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

A vacancy arises for a mature and experienced PERSONNEL/ACCOUNTING ADMINISTRATOR for our London office.

The person appointed will be responsible for all personnel matters, ensuring essential services are provided for this busy office, and will have the ability to undertake certain accounting projects (including petty cash and cheque payments) and some staff supervision. A realistic salary is offered and conditions of employment include a non-contributory pension scheme.

Applications to: Mrs L.M. Ladds, 47 Brunswick Place, London N1 6EE, marked Private & Confidential.

INSTITUTE OF NEUROLOGY

Personal Secretary

Enthusiastic, reliable and mature person required for interesting post as Personal Secretary to the Chairman of the Department of Clinical Neurology. Good secretarial skills required, including word processor experience and a knowledge of medical terminology. Pleasant office in new research building in Bloomsbury. Generous package, salary on scale 17,275 - 20,532.

Written applications to:
Professor R W Gillatt
Department of Clinical Neurology
The National Hospital
Queen Square, London WC1N 3BG.

DRAKE PERSONNEL

HOTEL PA (FABULOUS PERKS)

He is 'tough cookie' and involves himself in securing new business for this luxury 4 star London Hotel. Deal with top executive meeting diary, organise travel for contract Airline accounts and coordinate sales and marketing material. Your shorthand, typing and computer skills will secure you a super car in Hotel. Call: Mark Taylor (Tel: 01-499 8070) on 831 9536

INTERVIEWER

c.£14,000+

We are a privately owned recruitment consultancy with four branches in Central London. Due to recent promotion and expansion, we are looking for self-motivated people, ideally with sales and/or sound commercial experience who are looking for rapid management prospects and the opportunity to explore special areas of interest in an already thriving business.

Call Clare Cooper NOW on 01-938 3696

barnard marcus

Due to further expansion of this dynamic company, we are looking for bright negotiators to join our Residential Sales Offices. Outstanding career prospects for the right person. Initiative, flexibility and enthusiasm are essential. Car owner.

Please contact Vanessa Viruly
01-493 8889

PERSONAL ASSISTANT

Required for Chairman of International Company

Ideal position for the right person who will probably in 30's, good appearance and strong sense of humour. Top WP skills essential. Salary £10,000.

Apply with C.V. to Susan Maxwell Scott
Clivia House
65 Old Church Street
Chelsea SW3 5BS

TOP FLIGHT SECRETARIES

Secretary for Chairman of company near Wimbledon Common. £10,500

Secretary for M.D. of Central Wimbledon in Market Research company. £9,500

Please ring Carol Wisby or Vivette Belle on 01-947 0319 or 01-946 4424

or send in your CV to:
26 The Broadway,
Wimbledon SW19
(Emp Agt)

DRAKE PERSONNEL

FRONT LINER
£29,000

Speed your days in the most exciting office in the heart of the West End. You will be assisting the MD and the Marketing Director develop the UK and international business. Dynamic and fast paced, involves travel and frequent meetings. You will be responsible for the day to day running of the office. Excellent salary and benefits. Call: Mark Taylor (Tel: 01-499 8070) on 734 8511

BI-LINGUAL PA
£11,000 + Benefits

Use your fluent French and excellent Sec skills, to provide confidential assistance to the Head of the professional firm. Lots of overseas contact. Reason and stable.

PA TO EXPORT DIRECTOR - £9,000 +
Prestigious Co. in Mayfair need an experienced secretary with SH and good social skills to assist Export Director. Excellent salary and benefits. Call: Mark Taylor (Tel: 01-499 8070) on 831 9536

SECRETARY/RECEPTIONIST

With audio typing/PA for young rapidly expanding P.R. and Advertising Group located in the West End. Circa £9,000 - £9,500. Contact Sue Malar, Matthew Pudney Associates, 8 - 10 Hatfield St, London W1N 5LF

Tel: 01-498 3205

£8,000+ SECRETARIES

We are making a register of secretaries who are in the market for jobs paying in excess of £8,000.

If you would like your details to be available to 500 clients in August please send C.V. to:
Sue Wellings
Wardour Street Agency
100 Wardour Street
London W1

Or ring Sue on 01-734 8844 to make convenient appointment.

ADMIN PA
£10,000

Ideal opportunity to climb the ladder to success in the well-established and highly successful firm of accountants. As PA to the Director, sound secretarial skills are required but most important is the ability to develop your strengths as a Junior Executive level in the firm. PR. Sales & Marketing.

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The Temporary team where everyone is special.

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CAPRICORN
£10,000++

This company's most successful employees have all been Capricorn. We are looking for a secretary with excellent shorthand and typing skills. £10,000 + benefits. To join this fun loving young team you must have a strong personality and be able to cope with pressure. Successful offices and excellent benefits. Call: Mark Taylor (Tel: 01-499 8070) on 831 9536

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The Times Classified columns are read by 1.3 million of the most affluent people in the country. The following categories appear regularly each week and are generally accompanied by relevant editorial articles. Use the coupon (below), and find out how easy, fast and economical it is to advertise in The Times Classified.

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c.£12,500 p.a.

Exceptional opportunity for a career orientated P.A. within the London Office (WC2) of International Law Firm. Total involvement in a demanding, fulfilling environment. Excellent secretarial and social skills plus a good command of English and previous legal knowledge are of paramount importance.

Please call, in confidence, Vanessa Dye 01 242 8844

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MONDAY

Education: University Appointments, Prep & Public School Appointments, Educational Courses, Scholarships and Fellowships. La Crème de la Crème and other secretarial appointments.

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Computer Horizons: Computer Appointments with editorial. Legal Appointments: Solicitors, Commercial Lawyers, Legal Officers, Private & Public Practice. Legal La Crème for top legal secretaries. Public Sector Appointments.

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La Crème de la Crème and other secretarial appointments. Property: Residential, Town & Country, Overseas, Rentals, with editorial. Antiques and Collectables.

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c.£12,500 p.a.

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RACING: THREE POSSIBLE PACEMAKERS INCLUDED AMONG NINE DECLARATIONS FOR ASCOT SHOWDOWN

BLOODSTOCK SALES

Arab influence still powerful during opening exchanges

From David Hedges, Lexington, Kentucky

Keeneland's two-day selected yearling sales opened on Monday against the background of 26 per cent of the horses catalogued at the Fasig-Tipton sales last week being let out unsold and rumours that the Arab influence on the market would be much less this year.

In the event, the first day's selling at Keeneland, while producing average and aggregate figures down from last year, saw Arab interests purchase at least 32 yearlings worth \$24,030,000.

These were the identifiable purchases as appearing on the sales return sheets, but there may have been other yearlings bought through agencies.

The first day produced a turnover of \$55,494,000 for 129 lots with an average of \$430,186, to be compared with last year's total of \$59,040,000 for 130 lots and an average of \$454,153.

There was no headline horse breaking through the \$10m barrier last year, but prices were solid through the middle market.

Highest price was the \$3.6m paid by Darley Stud Management, which operates Sheikh Mohammed's Dalham Hall stud, near Newmarket, for a colt from Windfields Farm by Northern Dancer out of Soudra Ocean. This yearling is a full brother to the champion Canadian filly Northernite and to the champion English and Irish two-year-old Storm Bird.

BBA (Ireland) paid \$3.2m for a colt by Northern Dancer's son Nijinsky out of Blush With Pride, who is by Blushing Groom, is from the same female line as El Gran Senor, who won the 2,000 Guineas for Sangster and was narrowly beaten by Secretariat in the Derby and won the Irish Sweepstakes.

Sheikh al-Maktoum's Gainsborough Stud Management bought for \$2m a colt by Blushing Groom out of Glorious Song, a mare by Blushing Groom, who won 17 of her 34 races and who was champion mare in both Canada and the United States.

A third al-Maktoum brother, Sheikh Hamdan, who has stud farms in both Kentucky and near Theford in Norfolk, named Shadwell, was also among the upper bracket of buyers. He paid \$1.4m for a colt by Nureyev out of Heavenly Power, whose second dam produced the successful racehorse and sire Majestic Light.

For \$1.2m Gainsborough Stud Management bought a colt by Alleged out of the Lyphard mare Chain Bracelet. This is Chain Bracelet's second foal and her first, named Division, is a winner in Ireland this year.

English bloodstock agent George Blackwell, who is associated with Khalid Abdulla, went to \$1.5m for a colt by Mr Prospector out of Durtal, by Lyphard, who was the champion two-year-old filly in England in 1976.

expenditure £20.4m. The lots, which contributed £680,000 to the levy during the year, has announced pre-tax profits of £3,205,000. This is £29,000 less than last year and the loss of 129 days racing, due to the harsh winter, was blamed.

German target I Want To Be and St Hillario are British-trained products of the Grosser Preis von Berlin at Düsseldorf on Sunday and Theatrical is likely to transfer from Ireland. The one they all have to beat is Heinz Jentsch's Grand Prix de Saint-Cloud winner Acatenango. On Saturday, Patrick at Colwyn, Sunday racing, combating illegal betting and reducing betting duty.

The Board's total income for 1985-86 was £21.8m and its expenditure £20.4m. The lots, which contributed £680,000 to the levy during the year, has announced pre-tax profits of £3,205,000. This is £29,000 less than last year and the loss of 129 days racing, due to the harsh winter, was blamed.

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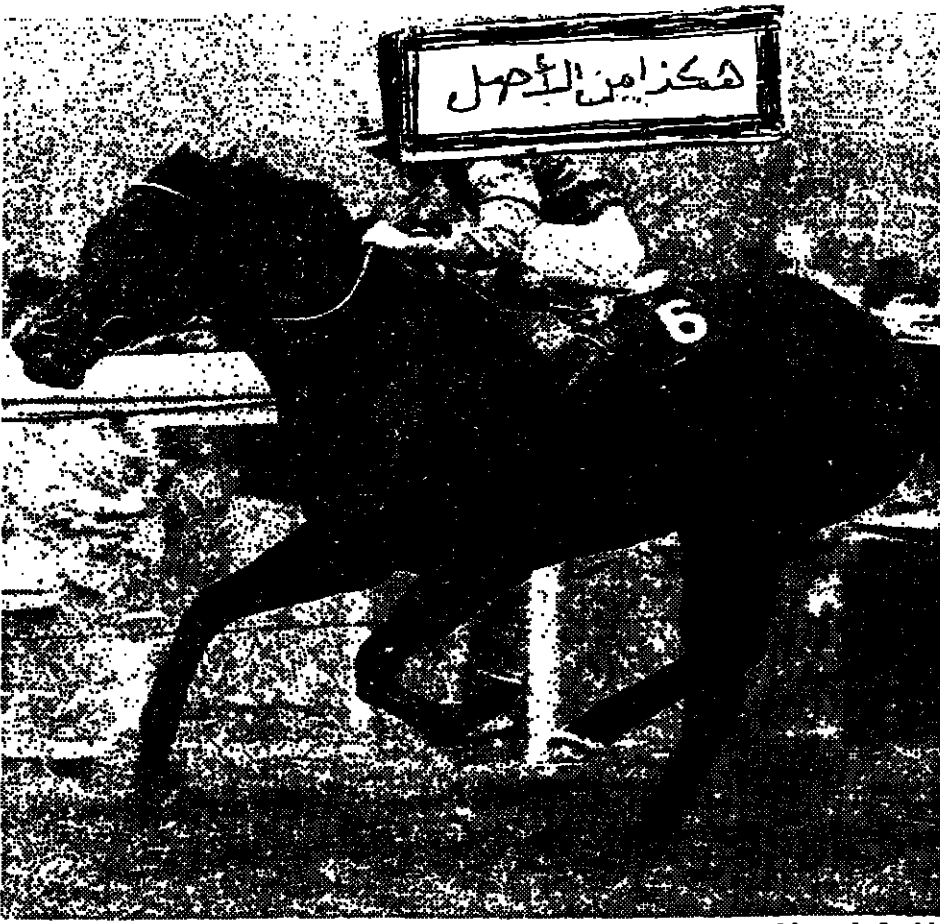
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Dihistan, the Hardwicke Stakes winner, is likely to have a crucial pacemaking role for his stable companions, Shahrastani and Shardini, at Ascot on Saturday

Shardini, was expected to have arrived by Concorde at Heathrow last night in order to put the finishing touches to the Aga Khan's redoubtable pair's preparation this morning. "Both horses are very well," said the trainer's wife, Pat, yesterday.

When the trainers showed their hands at yesterday's four-day stage of acceptors the nine declared included all those expected and three possible pacemakers in Dihistan, Bolden and Vouchasse.

Stoutie has not yet confirmed that he is employing Dihistan in the particular role, but it is impossible not to think that the Hardwicke Stakes winner will be in the field on Saturday to set as strong a gallop as possible in order to exploit Shahrastani's proven stamina and to try and blunt Dancing Brave's redoubtable burst of finishing speed.

Dick Hern, the man who used two pacemakers when Bustino was so narrowly defeated by Grundy in that epic battle in 1975, has not yet formulated his final plans. Confirming that Petoski is in peak form, he said yesterday, "I haven't yet decided whether to run Vouchasse and Bolden or just one of them. There are several fac-

tors to be taken into consideration." The best odds available with William Hills and Ladbrokes yesterday were as follows: 5-4 Shahrastani and Dancing Brave, 13-2 Shardini, 14-1 Petoski and 25-1 Triptych.

I have no intention of opposing Shahrastani after his impressive Irish Derby victory, but there is no doubt that the 14-1 offer against Petoski appears to represent sound each-way value.

Before his departure for Kentucky Stoutie was adamant that he did not want the firm to be too firm for Shahrastani. Yesterday Nicholas Beaumont, the clerk of the course, allayed the trainer's fears on this score. "Having had no appreciable rain for several weeks, we had half an inch last night. If we had been racing today, the going would have been perfect."

"I've been watering the course for the past fortnight," he went on, "and this rain will have settled the whole thing down. Showers are forecast for the next few days and if this is correct, we won't be watering again. I've never tried to change the going to suit one particular horse and I don't intend to start now."

Ayr results Going: good to firm. 2.30 (1m) 1. UPSET (D) McKinnon, 7-9; 2. The Certain Sails (M Hills, 8-11) McNeil; 3. Lippas North Moor (J Lowe, 20-1) ALSO; 4. The Windmill (D) McNeil, 20-1; 5. S. Wilson, at Ayr, 22-10; 6. Dr. 27-30; 7. 23-25; 8. 17-18; 9. 22-23; 10. 22-23; 11. 22-23; 12. 22-23; 13. 22-23; 14. 22-23; 15. 22-23; 16. 22-23; 17. 22-23; 18. 22-23; 19. 22-23; 20. 22-23; 21. 22-23; 22. 22-23; 23. 22-23; 24. 22-23; 25. 22-23; 26. 22-23; 27. 22-23; 28. 22-23; 29. 22-23; 30. 22-23; 31. 22-23; 32. 22-23; 33. 22-23; 34. 22-23; 35. 22-23; 36. 22-23; 37. 22-23; 38. 22-23; 39. 22-23; 40. 22-23; 41. 22-23; 42. 22-23; 43. 22-23; 44. 22-23; 45. 22-23; 46. 22-23; 47. 22-23; 48. 22-23; 49. 22-23; 50. 22-23; 51. 22-23; 52. 22-23; 53. 22-23; 54. 22-23; 55. 22-23; 56. 22-23; 57. 22-23; 58. 22-23; 59. 22-23; 60. 22-23; 61. 22-23; 62. 22-23; 63. 22-23; 64. 22-23; 65. 22-23; 66. 22-23; 67. 22-23; 68. 22-23; 69. 22-23; 70. 22-23; 71. 22-23; 72. 22-23; 73. 22-23; 74. 22-23; 75. 22-23; 76. 22-23; 77. 22-23; 78. 22-23; 79. 22-23; 80. 22-23; 81. 22-23; 82. 22-23; 83. 22-23; 84. 22-23; 85. 22-23; 86. 22-23; 87. 22-23; 88. 22-23; 89. 22-23; 90. 22-23; 91. 22-23; 92. 22-23; 93. 22-23; 94. 22-23; 95. 22-23; 96. 22-23; 97. 22-23; 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A British lead is lost near the end

From a Correspondent Palma

Forecasts for little wind on the second day of the long offshore race in the One Ton Cup were proved wrong here yesterday as the Danish yacht, *Andelstanken*, crossed the finishing line of the 272-mile course around the Comarques Islands and Ibiza just 48 hours after the start.

Her win was, however, not a classic, as for the second time in this series the fleet had turned itself inside out, this time frustratingly close to the finish line. After sharing the lead for the majority of the race, *Stratus* from Spain and the British entry, *Panda*, owned by Peter Whipp and sailed by Colin Simonds, entered the Bay of Palma at the head of the leading group, but within four miles of the finish they were all but becalmed.

Seeing the plight of the leaders, the mid-fleet yachts, *Cifalinea* of Britain, among them, sailed high and, spinnakers flying, carried their wind to the finish as the classic leaders beat slowly out of their heels.

As a result of her sixth place in this race, *Cifalinea*, sailed by Rodney Pattison, holds third place overall behind two Danish-designed, sailed and built *One Tonners*, *Stratus* and *Aways*. Because of the erratic wind conditions that have dropped many of the favourites well down the list the event, which has two further Olympic courses and a short offshore course to run, is still wide open. After today's day the second inshore race will be sailed tomorrow on a 27-mile Olympic style course.

RESULTS: Long offshore race: 1. *Andelstanken* (Den), 2. *Stratus* (Spain), 3. *Panda* (Great Britain), 4. *Aways* (Den), 5. *Stratus* (Spain), 6. *Cifalinea* (Great Britain), 7. *Stratus* (Spain), 8. *Stratus* (Spain), 9. *Stratus* (Spain), 10. *Stratus* (Spain).

RESULTS: Short offshore race: 1. *Andelstanken* (Den), 2. *Stratus* (Spain), 3. *Panda* (Great Britain), 4. *Aways* (Den), 5. *Stratus* (Spain), 6. *Cifalinea* (Great Britain), 7. *Stratus* (Spain), 8. *Stratus* (Spain), 9. *Stratus* (Spain), 10. *Stratus* (Spain).

Protests decide victory

By a Correspondent

After two days of racing, four clubs were yesterday evening still left in the Vivaldi Cup tournament, organized by the Royal Yacht Squadron at Cowes. They were the Royal Ocean Racing Club, the Royal Lyngby and Royal London Yacht Clubs, the Royal Southern Yacht Club and the Royal Southern Sea Club. Both competitions are due to finish today.

The RORC crew had to face two protests from their defeated Lyngby opponents over incidents in the pre-start manoeuvres and Peter Schofield of the Royal London faced a protest by the Squadron's Peter Nicholson over an alleged foul at the final leeward mark.

The semi-finals of the Royal Yacht Squadron's unofficial runners-up competition—the Royal Torbay Yacht Club beat the Royal Thames, and the Royal Southern crew beat the crew from the Island Sailing Club. Both competitions are due to finish today.

After the practice race the only non-European competitor in the Etchells 22 European championship, Ben Arman, won the first championship race at Troon yesterday after leading at every mark. The races, run by the Royal Western Yacht Club, are being held in the best stretch of championship sailing water in Scotland between Troon and Arran, where the fleet of 17 have so far enjoyed fresh wind conditions.

RESULTS: 1. Ben Arman (Chicago) YC; 2. Tender (Northern) YC; 3. G. Manuel (Glasgow) YC; 4. G. Gordon (Glasgow) YC; 5. J. Watson (Glasgow) YC; 6. A. Lyons (Glasgow) YC.

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Tavaré gets cracking to provide Kent with third championship win

By John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent

Canterbury: Kent (21pts) beat Lancashire: 5 by eight wickets.

A thoroughly good innings by Tavaré took Kent to their third championship victory of the season yesterday and their first at home. He was 90 not out when the match ended in the first over after lunch, having scored the last 76 of them in not much more than an hour.

When Kent won the championship in 1970 they had been last at the start of July. If their recovery this time is unlikely to be quite as spectacular, yesterday's success will have rallied them at a time when, with things going wrong, the season can start to seem very long.

I have always had a soft spot for Kent, whose traditions, if they are good ones, are properly preserved. Seen from the other side of the St Lawrence ground even the new stand blends well with the old, and of the side that won this match only Alderman was not either born or bred in the county.

As the game had gone for two days, things could very easily have turned against

Kent yesterday, especially when Benson, who had been admirably resident on Monday evening, soon played on, a little unhelpfully, to Allott. But Patterson was nothing like the bowler he had been the night before. He was on his last warning, having been pulled up twice then by umpire Evans for under pitching. Fast bowlers are not accustomed to a strict interpretation of Law 42 even in England, let alone in the West Indies.

When Tavaré was on 14 he survived a sharp chance to Watkinson at second slip off Allott. That, in the event, was Lancashire's last chance. Patterson was spent (he bowled only five overs yesterday, in two spells) and Tavaré began suddenly to play his "other game": the one he guards so jealously. It started when he hit Watkinson's bowling off breaks for three successive overs. In not much more than half an hour Tavaré went from 14, which had taken him 95 minutes, to 52. Taylor made him a good partner and the pitch seemed no longer to hold any terrors. No doubt it had been a good toss for Kent to

win, and Lancashire were unlucky with the injuries to O'Shaughnessy and Fairbrother and to Patterson, whose heel was said yesterday to be sore.

Had one of the selectors been watching, Tavaré would have got a mention at their next meeting. Having survived Patterson's assault and batted early in Kent's second innings he was rewarded in the end with some fairly easy pickings against Watkinson and the slow left arm of Folley. Like Benson, he would have got an idea what it must have been like to be in West Indies last winter when Patterson was not, as now, a lone fast bowler but the junior, if not the slowest, of four.

LANCASHIRE: First Innings 182 (G R Dilley 6 for 57)
Second Innings 165 (G R Dilley 4-55, R M Ellison 4-36)

KENT: First Innings 157 (B P Patterson 4-43, P J W Alderman 3-36)
Second Innings 37 (S G Henric 2-38, D G G Evans 2-38)

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-6, 2-48, 3-100, 4-110, 5-110, 6-110, 7-110, 8-110, 9-110, 10-110, 11-110, 12-110, 13-110, 14-110, 15-110, 16-110, 17-110, 18-110, 19-110, 20-110, 21-110, 22-110, 23-110, 24-110, 25-110, 26-110, 27-110, 28-110, 29-110, 30-110, 31-110, 32-110, 33-110, 34-110, 35-110, 36-110, 37-110, 38-110, 39-110, 40-110, 41-110, 42-110, 43-110, 44-110, 45-110, 46-110, 47-110, 48-110, 49-110, 50-110, 51-110, 52-110, 53-110, 54-110, 55-110, 56-110, 57-110, 58-110, 59-110, 60-110, 61-110, 62-110, 63-110, 64-110, 65-110, 66-110, 67-110, 68-110, 69-110, 70-110, 71-110, 72-110, 73-110, 74-110, 75-110, 76-110, 77-110, 78-110, 79-110, 80-110, 81-110, 82-110, 83-110, 84-110, 85-110, 86-110, 87-110, 88-110, 89-110, 90-110, 91-110, 92-110, 93-110, 94-110, 95-110, 96-110, 97-110, 98-110, 99-110, 100-110, 101-110, 102-110, 103-110, 104-110, 105-110, 106-110, 107-110, 108-110, 109-110, 110-110, 111-110, 112-110, 113-110, 114-110, 115-110, 116-110, 117-110, 118-110, 119-110, 120-110, 121-110, 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FALL OF

SPORT

Europe comes first for worried Lyle

By Mitchell Platt

Sandy Lyle is contemplating missing the United States PGA championship at Toledo, Ohio, next month in an effort to conserve his energy for the European Tour.

"I've found that I struggle to acclimatise quickly and at the moment my mind is set on missing the US PGA and taking a week off," Lyle said.

played lately and, looking back, I did not perform that well when I went over for the US Open last month."

John Simpson, who handles Lyle's affairs at the International Management Group, is hoping to convince the golfer that he should compete in the US PGA championship.

Lyle completed an extended run in the United States earlier this year by winning the Greater Greensboro Open on April 6 and then played well in the US Masters in which he finished joint eleventh behind Jack Nicklaus.

Even so, he has been disturbed by his loss of form, culminating with a last round of 74 in the Open in which he finished joint thirtieth, and he has sought advice on his swing from his father, Alex, the former professional at Hawkstone Park in Shropshire.

Lyle is 28th in the Epson Order of Merit and with official European winnings of £23,207, he would appear to have little or no chance of retaining his position of leading money winner as Severiano Ballesteros has earned £172,202.

Even so, he emphasized at Sunningdale on Monday that a change in fortune could be just around the corner. He compiled a 63 in a special event for the PGA European Tour Benevolent Trust, which, under the sponsorship of the Ritz Club, will lead to £60,000 being paid to the

Trust and the Golf Foundation over the next three years through the Player of the Month awards.

The champagne that Lyle sipped at Sunningdale might not have tasted as sweet as it did there 12 months earlier, when he was celebrating his success at Royal St George's, but he seemed to be less concerned than most at the loss of his title.

"I thoroughly enjoyed my year as Open champion and there will be many more opportunities for me to regain the title in the future," Lyle said. "I was upset with the way that I played at Turnberry and I left the course feeling frustrated. But it cannot be all bad when you are playing for something like thirtieth place and you still get mad at missing a putt. The interest is very much there - I simply need a change of luck."

More golf, page 36

COMMONWEALTH GAMES

Scotland's boxing request refused

Scotland's boxing officials responded angrily yesterday to a decision by their Commonwealth Games Council not to increase the size of their squad for the Games by two.

"The decision provoked an angry outburst from Frank Hendry, the Scottish boxing director. 'The executive are completely out of order in refusing our request,' he said. 'The boxing entry is 65 per cent down due to the boycott and we asked all four home countries to consider bringing extra competitors.'

"Wales have promised to send another seven men if they obtain the blessing of

their authorities while Ireland have three standing by and England two.

"Yet here we are, on the doorstep of the Commonwealth Games, with two Scottish boxers ready to take part but not allowed to compete. Lightweight David Robb and super heavyweight Colin Johnston have both been in the training squad and their fitness is guaranteed.

"We should have been given the full complement of 12 boxers in the first place instead of 10. To say I am disappointed is to put it mildly. It is a disgraceful decision taken by people on the executive who are interested in cycling and rowing."

Hendry, who said he had taken his request "right to the top", said that the senior games organizers had been sympathetic but that the Scottish executive had the final say

Javelin woman banned

By Ronald Faux

Diana Royle, the Scottish women's javelin record holder, has been withdrawn from the Scottish team in the Commonwealth Games after failing to obtain the required drugs clearance.

Royle, aged 26, who lives in Stretford and ranks in the Commonwealth top five, did not provide a sample under the new scheme of random tests introduced this season by the British Amateur Athletics Board. She was accordingly removed from the register of athletes. When called before a tribunal in Scotland to explain, she did not appear and was automatically ruled out.

team manager, said yesterday that Royle was no longer eligible for competition when her name had been removed from the BAAB doping register.

Miss Royle, injured earlier in the season, was not available for comment. A training injury put her out of the games in Brisbane four years ago.

Mike Winch was not selected by England for the Edinburgh Games because he failed to sign the register in time and another Scottish team member, Chris Black, also called before a tribunal, appeared with his solicitor and no further action is expected.

Multiple Sclerosis is merciless. It's a disease that can strike anybody, anytime. And there's no cure.

Every penny you contribute to the Multiple Sclerosis Society brings the cure that much closer.

It also brings some comfort to the many thousands who suffer the misery of impaired speech, loss of eyesight, incontinence and paralysis.

The much-publicised events of the past twelve months have demonstrated just how generous people can be when they believe in a cause.

Our cause is very important. Please give as much as you can. Because the sooner we find the answer the sooner we can ensure that the lives of those nearest to you are not torn apart.

If charity begins at home, imagine yours being torn apart.



A form for donating to the Multiple Sclerosis Society, including fields for name, address, and a checkbox for a donation.

YACHTING

Pajot may get new backer

By Barry Pickthall

Yves Pajot's bankrupt Challenge 12 France Syndicate could rise phoenix-fashion from its insolvency problems later this week. If the French courts rule today as expected that the Marseilles group should be wound up, the French subsidiary of an international appliance manufacturer is expected to purchase the assets.

If all goes according to plan, Pajot and some of his old crew could have their Adrienne-designed 12 metre, sailing next week and appear undaunted by the task ahead of developing a complete sail wardrobe in the short time that remains before the yacht must be shipped to Australia for the start of the selection trials in October.

Any misconceptions held by the French public that yacht racing, and 12 metre sailing in particular, is a sedate gentleman's sport has been dispelled by the serious injuries to one crewman sailing aboard Freedom, the French Kiss trial yacht recently.

The mainsail clew ripped in 35-knot winds while tacking a new mast off Site. Before the crew could control the sail it tore away from the mast and the added strain then broke the top of the spar. Shortly after the forestay broke and the mast came crashing down, crushing the hips, vertebrae and legs of Thierry Chappet, the syndicate's PT instructor. The unfortunate trainer, who

More yachting on page 38

had not sailed on a yacht before joining the group, is recovering in hospital.

Syd Fischer's late campaign to attract support from the man in the street for his Sydney-based defence syndicate after failing to attract any corporate sponsorship, got off to a bad start when unveiling the name Steak n' Kidney on his Peter Cole-designed 12 metre at a wacky ceremony in the New South Wales capital last week.

Speaking for many voicing the astonishment of Sydney's conservative set, an ashen-faced Gordon Logate, owner of Australia's famous 12 metre Gretel, pronounced the choice "disgusting".

The British syndicate, who continue to give trials to their two 12 metres quietly off Fremantle, hope to emulate the successful New Zealand campaign to raise money through a supporters club. The Royal Thames Group are to hold an open day at their base on August 10 and plan to charge \$20 a head. When the Kiwis did the same two months ago, 10,000 itinerant friends turned up paying \$10 at the door and another \$10 for a barbecued beefburger.

The latest Kiwi fund-raising effort is a \$500 per ticket dinner to celebrate the launching of the syndicate's third glass fibre 12 metre which proved a sell-out several weeks ago.

Dennis Conner, who lost the Cup in 1983, has been attracted from his secret lair in Honolulu as guest of honour along with John Bertrand, the man who defeated him. Dinner guests will have a first chance to size up the former champion and judge for themselves if he is fit enough to run the distance of 57 races against the likes of Chris Dickson, their young hope.

CRICKET

Willey takes the place of Emburey

By John Woodcock Cricket Correspondent

Barely three months since flying home from Trinidad, wondering whether his cricketing days were over, Peter Willey has been sent for to take the place of the injured John Emburey in the England party for tomorrow's first Test match against New Zealand at Lord's, sponsored by Cornhill.

It was while jogging in Port of Spain, after the fourth Test match against West Indies in April, that his knee, already seamed and scored with stitching from previous operations, blew up. It looked like Ailsa Craig from Turnberry, and as rugged. As a result, he missed the first month of this season.

But even at 37 he is still the most single-minded of cricketers (the chances are that he would have been jogging on his own in Trinidad, unless Bruce French was with him) and no sooner was he back in the Leicestershire side than he started to get runs.

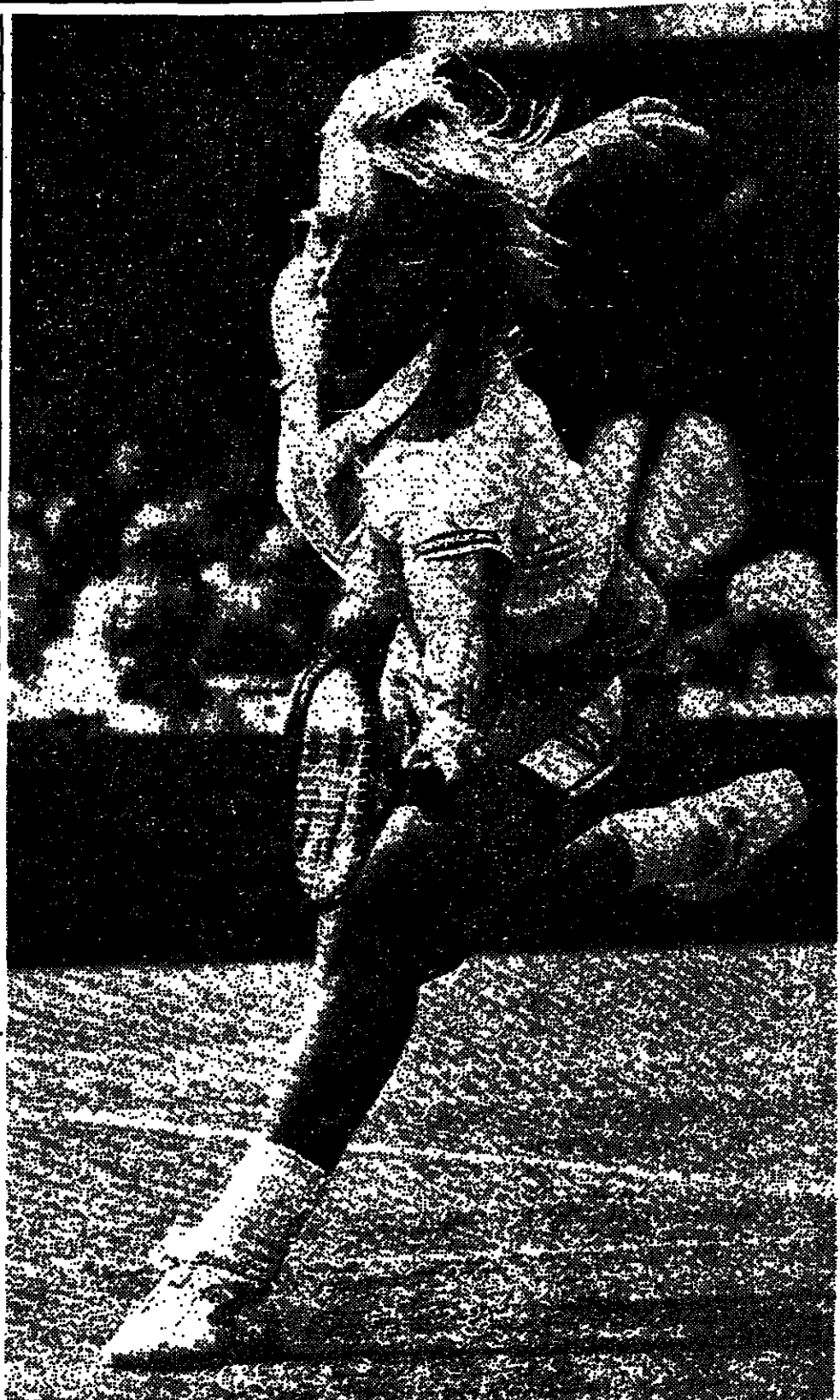
What he has not been doing is bowling, though it is a bowler's place that he now takes. Not that Emburey would have been likely to bowl a lot anyway, as Gatting's first two Tests as captain are a fair guide, and Willey's presence, if he plays, will shorten the tail, which will be a relief.

Tavaré leads Kent charge

Chris Tavaré, the former England batsman, steered Kent to an eight-wicket win over Lancashire at Canterbury yesterday in the Britannic Assurance county championship. Kent, requiring 129 for victory with nine second-innings wickets still standing, made a bad start when they lost Benson for 37. Tavaré, not noted for his quick scoring, decided attack was the best form of defence and hit an unbeaten 90 in 159 minutes, including 14 fours.

Hugh Morris celebrated his appointment as Glamorgan's new captain with a score of 88, following his 90 the day before. Paceman Neil Foster, who took six Worcestershire wickets in the first innings, once more played the destroyer for Essex at Southend.

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Navratilova: extending herself and straining every sinew to win a point

Politics takes second place to appeal of Navratilova

From Richard Evans, Prague

A match of very little consequence was elevated to a different plateau of importance by a strange mixture of emotional and political significance here yesterday as Martina Navratilova celebrated her homecoming with a victory.

Eleven years after a podgy teenager had run away to seek fame and fortune in America, Miss Navratilova emerged to cheers and prolonged applause on the newly built number one court at the Stivanice tennis complex, ready and eager to show the Czech people just what kind of athlete she had become.

In beating Xinyi Li, of China, 6-1, 6-0, she did not disappoint them. Nor did the fact that she was playing in this Federation Cup competition under the American flag seem to affect the great glow of warmth and appreciation that poured down on her from every corner of the little arena. Pride

and happiness were the overriding emotions of this memorable afternoon.

There was humour, too, as both the crowd and Martina laughed at the umpire when he called out, "Game, Miss Navratilova" instead of "Game, United States" and had to correct himself.

But perhaps the loveliest touch of all was provided by the delightful Miss Xinyi, who, having accepted her role as outclassed loser with a happy smile, demurely asked Martina to pose with her while the Chinese coach took their photograph. It was an act of heartwarming simplicity which also revealed a clear understanding of just how rare a swap it would make for the family album back home in Canton.

The crowds stood three or four deep around the perimeter of number one court in anticipation of Martina's appearance. Others leaned over the concrete balustrades of the taller stadium and hung from the windows of passing trains which rolled by with, one suspected, deliberate torpor along an elevated track that runs parallel to one side of the court.

For much of the past 11 years the Wimbledon champion has been classified as a non-person by the Czechoslovak media. But now the Czech people have seen that great big happy smile and all those thunderous serves and volleys and the whispered legend has come alive. Just for a brief moment or two, Martina Navratilova is back in her homeland and politics is losing 6-0, 6-0.

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FOOTBALL

Determined labour to save Wolves

Wolverhampton Wanderers, fighting to avoid extinction for the second time in five years, could be taken over in a £3 million move by the town council. The controlling labour group on the council are determined to stop the famous Molineux club going to the wall. If their takeover plans succeed, the local authority would end up running the club, which will be playing

fourth division football. The club have to appear before the high court again on July 30 to face a winding-up order and they could be forced to close if no takeover bids have been made at that time. A new sponsorship deal which could be worth over £300,000 was announced yesterday by Norwich City Football Club and Fosters Lager. It will start at the beginning of

the new season on August 23 with a firm £85,000 one-year deal and a further two-year option, at an increased figure. The total includes a direct payment to the club and a success bonus.

The deal was officially signed at Carrow Road yesterday by Robert Chase, the club chairman, and David Jacobs, the Norwich brewery managing director.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Morris: in control



Hugh Morris was confirmed yesterday as Glamorgan's captain in place of Rodney Ontong, who has resigned. The opening batsman, aged 22, who leads the side for the first time today, against Leicestershire, said: "Becoming a county captain has always been my ambition. I have enjoyed playing under Rodney and am sorry he feels unable to continue."

Ontong, the South African-born all-rounder, aged 29, took over from Mike Selvey two years ago, but admitted: "I have not enjoyed captaincy as much as I expected."

Taking charge

David Pickering, the Wales rugby union captain, has been told to wait until September before he starts training for the new season. Knocked unconscious during an international match against Fiji in May, the Llanelli wing forward has been advised by a neurologist to delay his return to the game.

On the up

The Rugby League Alliance, the competition for reserve teams, will have two divisions next season, with three new teams - Bramley, Workington Town and York - bringing the total membership to 27 clubs.

Waiting game

Geoff Boycott's future as a Yorkshire player will not be decided until September, when the club decide on new contracts. Speculation has arisen that the former England opener's playing career could be at an end after confirmation that a broken bone in his left wrist will keep him out of the game for the next month. But Joe Lister, the club secretary, said a decision concerning contracts would be made at the end of the season "in the normal manner".

Playing safe

David Pickering, the Wales rugby union captain, has been told to wait until September before he starts training for the new season. Knocked unconscious during an international match against Fiji in May, the Llanelli wing forward has been advised by a neurologist to delay his return to the game.

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Hinault still chasing glory

From John Wilcockson, Alpe d'Huez

At a Press conference in the Notre Dame des Neiges chapel yesterday Bernard Hinault refused to lie down and admit that he has lost the 73rd Tour de France to his American team-mate, Greg LeMond.

"There is still the time trial at St. Etienne on Thursday," the Frenchman, aged 31, said. "Greg and I have discussed it and agreed that we will not race against each other after the time trial." This obviously indicated that Hinault has every intention of attempting to overcome his deficit of 2 minutes 45 seconds before then.

LeMond, who was sitting alongside Hinault, now felt secure in the leader's yellow jersey. "I felt the best I have ever done was in the attack with Bernard on Monday. I think the Tour is now won," LeMond said.

LeMond is not a lucky leader of what everyone agrees has been one of the most spectacular and gruelling Tours for many years. In 1984, in his first appearance in the race, LeMond recovered from a bad start to take third place behind Laurent Fignon and Hinault.

Last year, with Hinault as a team colleague, the American finished second. He had the good chance of taking the yellow jersey during the latter stages, but obeyed the orders of his team coach to hold back.

Perfect harmony in breakaway

This season LeMond has raced consistently well, but has yet to achieve the big victory he seeks. He has earned a handful of second places since becoming the world road champion in 1983, a title which he is hoping to recapture at Colorado Springs in the United States on September 6. Others have their eyes on the same trophy, including Hinault, who said yesterday, "I may not win the Tour de France, but I will be ready to challenge for the world title. It would be a good way of ending my career."

The joint victory by the two friendly rivals on Monday was perhaps more of a high point in the race than LeMond's stage win at Superaguerres in the Pyrenees last week. Both then worked in perfect harmony during their three-hour breakaway.

The American probably had the power to leave Hinault on the final ascent to Alpe d'Huez, but he agreed to climb at the older man's tempo. It was a significant moment when the pair linked hands 300 metres from the finish, and continued side by side, smiling, up the last rise until LeMond generously waded forward his team captain to cross the line first.

It was Hinault's 26th stage victory in his eight appearances in the Tour de France, which puts him second in the all-time list behind the great Belgian, Eddy Merckx, another five-time Tour winner.

Not a Tour for the climbers

Merckx followed the two Alpine stages this week and told us that he thought Hinault could have improved his chances of winning the Tour if he had ridden differently. "Hinault made a mistake by attacking on the second stage in the Pyrenees," Merckx said.

"I think he underestimated his own capabilities. This hasn't been a Tour for the climbers like everyone thought. That is why men like Luis Herrera and Robert Millar have failed to stay the distance."

Herrera, the Colombian who had been tipped to win, contracted a cold which prevented him from showing his best form in the Alps. He was almost last on the stage to Alpe d'Huez, and lies in 21st position before the remaining five stages.

Miller, who faded little better on Monday, is down to eighth position overall, but said yesterday, "I still have a chance of winning the King of the Mountains title." To regain the spotted red and white jersey which is awarded to the leading climber, Miller will have to score well on the climbs today on the stage to St. Etienne, and on Friday, when seven climbs are included on the road to the Puy de Dome mountain.

We still don't know what to expect from Hinault. He said yesterday, "The race is finished between Greg and me after the time trial." But what happens if he beats LeMond decisively on Thursday? If that happens, Hinault still has a chance of becoming the first man to win the Tour de France six times.

Cal... ba... W...

Cal... ba... W... (Large vertical text on the right edge of the page)

Monday

Music in the round



Music in the round (Text below the portrait)

Portfolio Gold

Portfolio Gold (Text about gold investments)

Two escape in balloon crash

Two escape in balloon crash (Text about a balloon incident)

The share-out

The share-out (Text about share investments)

Oxford exams (Text about university exams)